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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCE AND METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY EXPRESSING A PROTEIN IN A TARGET CELL OR TISSUE

(57) Abstract

A synthetic nucleic acid sequence and a method are disclosed for selectively expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue of a mammal. Selective expression is effected by replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein of interest with a synonymous codon to produce a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to the parent nucleic acid sequence. The synonymous codon is selected such that it corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to one or more other cells or tissues of the mammal.

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TITLE

"NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCE AND METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY EXPRESSING A PROTEIN IN A TARGET CELL OR TISSUE"

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

therapy. More particularly, the present invention relates to a synthetic nucleic acid sequence and to a method for selectively expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue in which at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein has been replaced with a synonymous codon.

The invention also relates to production of virus particles using one or more synthetic nucleic acid sequences and the method according to the invention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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While gene therapy is of great clinical interest for treatment of gene defects, this therapy has not entered into mainstream clinical practice because selective delivery of genes to target tissues has proven extremely difficult. Currently, viral vectors are used, particularly retroviruses and adenovirus, which are to some extent selective. However, many vector systems are by their nature unable to produce stable integrants and some also invoke immune responses thereby preventing effective treatment. Alternatively, "naked" DNA is packaged in liposomes or other similar delivery systems. A major

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problem to be overcome is that such gene delivery systems themselves are not tissue selective, whereas selective targeting of genes to particular tissues would be desirable for many disorders (e.g., cancer therapy). While use of tissue specific promoters to target gene therapy has been effective in some animal models it has proven less so in man, and selective tissue specific promoters are not available for a wide range of tissues.

The invention arisen current has unexpectedly from recent investigations exploring why papillomavirus (PV) late gene expression is restricted to differentiated keratinocytes. In this regard, it is known that PV late genes L1 and L2 are only expressed in non-dividing differentiated keratinocytes (KCs). Many investigators including the present inventors have been unable to detect significant PV L1 and L2 protein expression when these genes are transduced or transfected into undifferentiated cultured cells, using a range of conventional constitutive viral promoters including retroviral long terminal repeats (LTRs) and the strong constitutive promoters of CMV and SV40.

PV L1 mRNA can however be efficiently translated in vitro using rabbit reticulocyte cell lysate, suggesting that there are no cellular inhibitors in the lysate interfering with translation of L1. The major difference between the in vitro and in vivo translation systems is that L1 comprises the dominant L1 mRNA in in vitro translation reactions, while it constitutes a minor fraction among the cellular mRNAs in intact cells.

WO 99/02694

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In vivo, PV late proteins are not produced in undifferentiated KC. However, they are expressed in large quantity in highly differentiated KC. The mechanism of this tight control of late gene expression has been poorly understood, and searches by many groups for KC specific PV gene transcriptional control proteins have been unrewarding.

Blockage to translation of L1 mRNA in vivo has been attributed to sequences within the L1 ORF (Tan et al. 1995, J. Virol. 69 5607-5620; Tan and Schwartz, 1995, J. Virol. 69 2932-2945). By using a Rev and Rev-responsive element of HIV, such inhibition could be overcome (Tan et al. 1995, Accordingly, the inventors examined whether removal of putative "inhibitory sequences" in the L1 ORF would allow production of L1 protein in undifferentiated Deletion mutagenesis of BPV L1 to cells. inhibitory sequences and expression putative resultant deletion mutants in CV-1 cells revealed surprisingly that despite expression of L1 mRNA, L1 protein could not be detected.

In view of the foregoing, it has been difficult hitherto to understand how papillomaviruses produce large amounts of L1 protein in the late stage of their life cycle using this apparently "untranslatable" gene.

Surprisingly, however, it has now been discovered that PV L1 protein can be produced at substantially enhanced levels in an undifferentiated host cell by replacing existing codons of a native L1 gene with synonymous codons used at relatively high frequency by genes of the undifferentiated host cell

compared to the existing codons. It has also been unexpectedly that there found substantial are differences in the relative abundance of particular isoaccepting transfer RNAs (tRNAs) in different cells or tissues and this plays a pivotal role in protein expression from a gene with a given codon usage or This discovery has been reduced to composition. practice in synthetic nucleic acid sequences generic methods, which utilize codon alteration as a for targeting expression of a protein to means particular cells or tissues or alternatively, to cells in a specific state of differentiation.

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

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It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a synthetic nucleic acid sequence and a method for selectively expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue which sequence and method ameliorate at least some of the disadvantages associated with the prior art.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, in one aspect of the invention, there is provided a synthetic nucleic acid sequence capable of selectively expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue of a mammal, wherein said selective expression is effected by replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to form said synthetic nucleic acid sequence.

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Suitably, said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to one or more other cells or tissues of the mammal.

Preferably, said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a precursor cell or tissue.

Alternatively, said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a cell or tissue derived therefrom.

Advantageously, said corresponding iso-tRNA in said target cell or tissue is at a level which is at least 110%, preferably at least 200%, more preferably at least 500%, and most preferably at least 1000%, of that expressed in the or each other cell or tissue of the mammal.

Alternatively, the synonymous codon may be selected from the group consisting of (1) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the target cell or tissue, (2) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the or each other cell or tissue, (3) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the mammal, (4) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the target cell

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or tissue, (5) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the or each other cell or tissue, (6) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the mammal, (7) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes of another organism, and (8) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of another organism.

In a preferred embodiment, the at least one existing codon and the synonymous codon are preferably selected such that said protein is expressed from said synthetic nucleic acid sequence in said target cell or tissue at a level which is at least 110%, preferably at least 200%, more preferably at least 500%, and most preferably at least 1000%, of that expressed from said parent nucleic acid sequence in said target cell or tissue.

In another aspect, the invention resides in a method for selectively expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue of a mammal, wherein said selective expression is effected by replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to form said synthetic nucleic acid sequence.

Preferably, the method is further characterized by the steps of:

(a) replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence encoding said protein with a synonymous codon to produce a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to said parent nucleic acid sequence such that said protein is selectively expressible in said target cell or tissue;

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- (b) administering to the mammal and introducing into said target cell or tissue, or a precursor cell or precursor tissue thereof, said synthetic nucleic acid sequence operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences; and
- (c) selectively expressing said protein in said target cell or tissue.

Preferably, the method further includes, prior to step (a):

- (i) measuring relative abundance of different isoacceptor transfer RNAs in said target cell or tissue, and in one or more other cells or tissues of the mammal; and
- (ii) identifying said at least one
 existing codon and said synonymous codon based on said
 measurement, wherein said synonymous codon corresponds
 to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA
 corresponding to the existing codon, is in higher
 abundance in said target cell or tissue relative to
 the or each other cell or tissue of the mammal.

Suitably, step (ii) above is further characterized in that said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a precursor cell or tissue.

Alternatively, step (ii) above is further characterized in that said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a cell or tissue derived therefrom.

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Alternatively, the method further includes, prior to step (a), identifying said at least one existing codon and said synonymous codon based on respective relative frequencies of particular codons used by genes selected from the group consisting of (I) genes of the target cell or tissue, (II) genes of the or each other cell or tissue, (III) genes of the mammal, and (IV) genes of another organism.

In yet another aspect, the invention provides a method for expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue from a first nucleic acid sequence including the steps of:

introducing into said target cell or tissue, or a precursor cell or precursor tissue thereof, a second nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one isoaccepting transfer RNA wherein said second nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences, and wherein said at least one isoaccepting transfer RNA is normally in relatively low abundance in said target cell or tissue and corresponds to a codon of said first nucleic acid sequence.

In a further aspect, the invention extends to a method for producing a virus particle in a cycling eukaryotic cell, said virus particle comprising at least one protein necessary for assembly of said virus particle, wherein said at least one protein is not expressed in said cell from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein, said method including the steps of:

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- (a) replacing at least one existing codon of said parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to produce a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to said parent nucleic acid sequence such that said at least one protein is expressible from said synthetic nucleic acid sequence in said cell at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein;
- (b) introducing into said cell or a precursor thereof said synthetic nucleic acid sequence operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences; and
 - (c) expressing said at least one protein in said cell in the presence of other viral proteins required for assembly of said virus particle to thereby produce said virus particle.

In yet a further aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for producing a virus particle in a cycling cell, said virus particle comprising at least one protein necessary for assembly of said virus particle, wherein said at least one protein is not expressed in said cell from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein, and wherein at least one existing codon of said parent nucleic acid sequence is rate limiting for the production said at least one protein to said level, said method including the step of introducing into said cell a nucleic acid sequence capable of expressing therein an isoaccepting transfer RNA specific for said at least one codon.

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BRIEF DESCRITPION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1A depicts the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) and deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) of BPV1 L1. Amino acids (in single letter code) are presented below the second nucleotide of each codon. Mutations introduced into the genes are indicated above the corresponding nucleotides of the original sequence. Horizontal lines indicate the sites and enzymes used for cloning. This replacement of nucleotides resulted in a nucleic acid sequence encoding BPV-1 L1 polypeptide with an amino acid sequences identical to the wild type, but having synonymous codons that are frequently used by mammalian genes.

Figure 1B shows the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:5) and deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:6) relating to BPV1 L2 ORF. Amino acids (in single letter code) are presented below the second nucleotide of each codon. Mutations introduced into the genes are indicated above the corresponding nucleotides of the original sequence. Horizontal lines indicate the sites and enzymes used for cloning. This replacement of nucleotides resulted in a nucleic acid sequence encoding BPV-1 L2 polypeptide with an amino acid sequences identical to the wild type, but having synonymous codons that are frequently used by mammalian genes.

Figure 1C depicts the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:9) and deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:10) of green fluorescent protein (GFP). Amino acids (in single letter code) are presented below the

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second nucleotide of each codon. Mutations introduced into the genes are indicated above the corresponding nucleotides of the original sequence. Horizontal lines indicate the sites and enzymes used for cloning. This replacement of nucleotides resulted in a nucleic acid sequence encoding GFP polypeptide with an amino acid sequence identical to the native sequence modified for optimal expression in eukaryotic cells, but having synonymous codons that are frequently used by papillomavirus genes.

Figure 2A shows detection of L1 protein expressed from synthetic and wild type BPV1 L1 genes. Cos-1 cells were transfected with a synthetic L1 expression plasmid pCDNA/HBL1, and a wild type L1 expression plasmid pCDNA/BPVL1wt. The expression of L1 was detected by immunofluorescent staining. Cells were fixed after 36 hrs and incubated with rabbit anti-BPV1 L1 antiserum, followed by FITC-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG antibody.

Figure 2B shows detection by Western blot of L1 protein from Cos-1 cells transfected with pCDNA/HBL1 and pCDNA/BPVL1wt.

Figure 2C shows a Northern blot in which L1 mRNA extracted from transfected cells was probed with ³²P-labeled probes produced from wild type L1 sequence. The amount of mRNA loaded in respective lanes was examined by hybridization of the mRNA sample with a gapdh probe.

Figure 3A shows detection of L2 protein expressed from synthetic and wild type BPV1 L2 genes. Cos-1 cells were transfected with a synthetic L2 expression plasmid pCDNA/HBL2, and a wild type L2

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expression plasmid pCDNA/BPVL2wt. The expression of L2 was detected by immunofluorescent staining. Cells were fixed after 36 hrs and incubated with rabbit anti-BPV1 L2 antiserum, followed by FITC-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG antibody.

Figure 3B shows detection by Western blot of L2 protein from Cos-1 cells transfected with pCDNA/HBL2 and pCDNA/BPVL2wt.

Figure 3C shows a Northern blot in which L2 mRNA extracted from transfected cells was probed with ³²P-labeled probes produced from wild type L2 sequence. The amount of mRNA loaded in respective lanes was examined by hybridization of the mRNA sample with a gapdh probe.

Figure 4 shows in vitro translation of 15 BPVL1 sequences, wild type BPVL1 (wt) or synthetic L1 using rabbit reticulocyte lysate or wheat germ (HB) extract in the presence of 35S-methionine. In the top panel, wt L1 or HB L1 plasmid DNA was added to the T7 DNA polymerase-coupled in vitro translation system. 20 L1 protein was detected by Western blot analysis. In the bottom panel, the translation efficiency of wt L1 or HB L1 sequences in the presence or absence of tRNA was compared. Translation was carried out in rabbit reticulocyte lysate (rabbit) or wheat germ extract 25 (wheat), and samples were collected every two minutes starting from minute 8. Left side of lower panel indicates if 10⁻⁵ M bovine liver or yeast tRNA was supplied.

Figure 5A is a schematic representation of plasmids used to determine L2 expression from BPV cryptic promoter(s). The wild type L1 sequence and

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most of the wild type L2 sequence were deleted from the BPV1 genome by BamHI and HindIII digestion and the remaining BPV1 sequence (in yellow) was cloned into pUC18. Wild type or synthetic humanized L2 sequences (in red) were inserted into the BamHI site of the BPV1 genome. The position of the inserted SV40 ori sequence (in white) is indicated. The plasmid in which modified L2 was used but without SV40 ori sequence was also used as a control. The plasmids were transfected into Cos-1 cells and the expression of L2 protein was determined using BPV1 L2-specific polyclonal antiserum followed by FITC-linked antirabbit IgG.

Figure 5B shows expression of L2 protein

from native papillomavirus promoter. The plasmids shown in Figure 5A were used to transfect Cos-1 cells and the expression of L2 protein was determined using BPV1 L2-specific polyclonal antiserum followed by FITC-linked anti rabbit IgG. A mock transfection in which the cells did not receive plasmid was used as control.

Figure 6 shows expression of GFP in Cos-1 cells transfected with wild-type gfp (wt) or a synthetic gfp gene carrying codons used at relatively high frequency by papillomavirus genes (p). The mRNA extracted from cells transfected with gfp or P gfp was probed with ^{32}P -labeled gfp probe and is shown on the right panel, using gapdh as a reference gene.

Figure 7 shows the expression pattern of GFP in vivo from wild-type gfp gene, or a synthetic gfp gene carrying codons used at relatively high frequency by papillomavirus genes. Using a gene gun,

PCT/AU98/00530 WO 99/02694 14

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mice were shot with PGFP (left panel) and GFP (right panel) expression plasmids encoding GFP protein. transverse section of the mouse skin section shows where the gfp gene is expressed. Bright-field photographs of the same section where dermis epidermis (E) are highlighted are shown to identify the location of fluorescence in the epidermis. Arrows indicate fluorescent signals.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The present invention arises from the unexpected discovery that the relative abundance of different isoaccepting transfer RNAs varies in different cells or tissues, or alternatively in cells or tissues in different states of differentiation or in different stages of the cell cycle, and that such exploited together with codon be differences may composition of a gene to regulate and direct expression of a protein to a particular cell or tissue, or alternatively to a cell or tissue in a specific state of differentiation or in a specific stage of the cell cycle. According to the present invention, this selective targeting is effected by replacing at least one existing codon of a parent 25 . nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein with a synonymous codon.

Replacement of synonymous codons for existing codons is not new per se. In this regard, we refer to International Application Publication No WO 96/09378 which utilizes such substitution to provide a method of expressing proteins of eukaryotic and viral

origin at high levels in in vitro mammalian cell culture systems, the main thrust of the method being the harvesting of such proteins. In distinct contrast, the present invention utilizes substitution of one or more codons in a gene for targeting expression of the gene to particular cells or tissues with the ultimate aim of facilitating gene therapy as described herein.

The term "synonymous codon" as used herein refers to a codon having a different nucleotide sequence to an existing codon but encoding the same amino acid as the existing codon.

By "isoaccepting transfer RNA" is meant one or more transfer RNA molecules that differ in their anticodon structure but are specific for the same amino acid.

Throughout this specification, unless the context requires otherwise, the words "comprise", comprises" and "comprising" will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated integer or group of integers but not the exclusion of any other integer or group of integers.

Selection of synonymous codons

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Determination of relative abundance of different tRNA species in different cells

Advantageously, the synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA (iso-tRNA) which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the

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target cell or tissue relative to one or more other cells or tissues of the mammal.

Any method for determining the relative abundance of an iso-tRNA in two or more cells or tissues may be employed. For example, such method may include isolating two or more particular cells or tissues from a mammal, preparing an RNA extract from each cell or tissue which extract includes tRNA, and probing each extract respectively with different nucleic acid sequences each being specific for a particular iso-tRNA to determine the relative abundance of an iso-tRNA between the two or more cells or tissues.

Suitable methods for isolating particular cells or tissues are well known to those of skill in 15 the art. For example, one can take advantage of one or more particular characteristics of a cell or tissue to specifically isolate the cell or tissue from a heterogeneous population. Such characteristics 20 include, but are not limited to, anatomical location of a tissue, cell density, cell size, cell morphology, cellular metabolic activity, cell uptake of ions such as Ca2+, K+, and H+ ions, cell uptake of compounds such as stains, markers expressed on the cell surface, cytokine expression, protein fluorescence, 25 membrane potential. Suitable methods that may be used in this regard include surgical removal of tissue, flow cytometry techniques such as fluorescenceactivated cell sorting (FACS), immunoaffinity separation (e.g., magnetic bead separation such as 30 Dynabead^M separation), density separation (e.g., metrizamide, Percoll™, or Ficoll™ gradient

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centrifugation), and cell-type specific density separation (e.g., Lymphoprep $^{\mathbb{M}}$). For example, dividing cells or blast cells may be separated from non-dividing cells or resting cells according to cell size by FACS or metrizamide gradient separation.

Any suitable method for isolating total RNA from a cell or tissue may be used. Typical procedures contemplated by the invention are described in CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY (Ausubel, et al., eds) (John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1997), hereby incorporated by reference, at page 4.2.1 through page Preferably, techniques which favor isolation of tRNA employed as, for example, described are in Brunngraber, E.F. (1962, Biochem. Biophys. Res. 8:1-3) which Commun. is hereby incorporated by reference.

The probing of an RNA extract is suitably effected with different oligonucleotide sequences each being specific for a particular iso-tRNA. Of course it will be appreciated that for a given mammal, oligonucleotide sequences would need to be selected which hybridize specifically with particular iso-tRNA sequences expressed by the mammal. Such selection is well within the realm of one of ordinary skill in the art based a known iso-tRNA sequence. For example, in case of a mouse, exemplary oligonucleotide the sequences which may be used include those described in Gauss and Sprinzel (1983, Nucleic Acids Res. 11 (1)) hereby incorporated by reference. In this respect, the oligonucleotide sequences may be selected from the group consisting of:

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5'-TAAGGACTGTAAGACTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:13) for Alagca
        5'-CGAGCCAGCCAGGAGTC-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:14) for Arg CGA
                                  (SEQ ID NO:15) for Asn<sup>AAC</sup>
        5'-CTAGATTGGCAGGAATT-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:16) for Asp GAC
        5'-TAAGATATAGATTAT-3'
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        5'-AAGTCTTAGTAGAGATT-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:17) for Cys<sup>TGC</sup>
        5'-TATTTCTACACAGCATT-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:18) for GluGAA
                                  (SEQ ID NO:19) for Gln CAA
        5'-CTAGGACAATAGGAATT-3'
        5'-TACTCTCTTCTGGGTTT-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:20) for Gly GGA
        5'-TGCCGTGACTCGGATTC-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:21) for His CAC
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        5'-TAGAAATAAGAGGGCTT-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:22) for IleATC
        5'-TACTTTTATTTGGATTT-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:23) for Leu<sup>CTA</sup>
                                  (SEQ ID NO:24) for LeuCTT
        5'-TATTAGGGAGAGGATTT-3'
        5'-TCACTATGGAGATTTTA-3'
                                  (SEQ ID NO:25) for LysAAA
                                  (SEQ ID NO:26) for Lys AAG
        5'-CGCCCAACGTGGGGCTC-3'
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        5'-TAGTACGGGAAGGATTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:27) for Metelong
        5'-TGTTTATGGGATACAAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:28) for PheTTC
        5'-TCAAGAAGAAGGAGCTA-3' (SEQ ID NO:29) for Procca
        5'-GGGCTCGTCCGGGATTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:30) for Procci
        5'-ATAAGAAAGGAAGATCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:31) for Serage
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        5'-TGTCTTGAGAAGAGAAG-3' (SEQ ID NO:32) for Thraca
        5'-TGGTAAAAAGAGGATTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:33) for TyrTAC
        5'-TCAGAGTGTTCATTGGT-3' (SEQ ID NO:34) for ValGTA
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trypically, the relative abundance of isotrana species may be determined by blotting techniques that include a step whereby sample RNA or tract is immobilized on a matrix (preferably a synthetic membrane such as nitrocellulose), a hybridization step, and a detection step. Northern blotting may be used to identify an RNA sequence that is complementary to a nucleic acid probe. Alternatively, dot blotting

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and slot blotting can be used to identify complementary DNA/RNA or RNA/RNA nucleic acid sequences. Such techniques are well known by those skilled in the art, and have been described in Ausubel, et al (supra) at pages 2.9.1 through 2.9.20.

According to such methods, a sample of tRNA immobilized on a matrix is hybridized under stringent conditions to a complementary nucleotide sequence (such as those mentioned above) which is labeled, for example, radioactively, enzymatically or fluorochromatically.

"Stringency" as used herein, refers to the temperature and ionic strength conditions, and presence or absence of certain organic solvents, during hybridization. The higher the stringency, the higher will be the degree of complementarity between the immobilized nucleotide sequences (i.e., iso-tRNA) and the labeled oligonucleotide sequence. For a discussion of typical stringent conditions that may be used, see CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY supra at pages 2.10.1 to 2.10.16, and Sambrook et al in MOLECULAR CLONING. A LABORATORY MANUAL (Cold Spring Harbor Press, 1989), hereby incorporated by reference, at sections 1.101 to 1.104.

While stringent washes are typically carried out at temperatures from about 42°C to 68°C , one skilled in the art will appreciate that other temperatures may be suitable for stringent conditions. Maximum hybridization typically occurs at about 20° to 25° below the T_{m} for formation of a DNA-DNA hybrid. It is well known in the art that the T_{m} is the melting temperature, or temperature at which two complementary

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nucleic acid sequences dissociate. Methods for estimating T_m are well known in the art (see CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY supra at page 2.10.8). Maximum hybridization typically occurs at about 10° to 15° below the T_m for a DNA-RNA hybrid.

Other stringent conditions are well known in the art. A skilled addressee will recognize that various factors can be manipulated to optimize the specificity of the hybridization. Optimization of the stringency of the final washes can serve to ensure a high degree of hybridization.

Methods for detecting labeled nucleotide sequences hybridized to an immobilized nucleotide sequence are well known to practitioners in the art. Such methods include autoradiography, chemiluminescent, fluorescent and colorimetric detection.

Advantageously, the relative abundance of an iso-tRNA in two or more cells or tissues may be determined by comparing the respective levels of binding of a labeled nucleotide sequence specific for the iso-tRNA to equivalent amounts of immobilized RNA obtained from the two or more cells or tissues. Similar comparisons are suitably carried out to determine the respective relative abundance of other iso-tRNAs in the two or more cells or tissues. One of ordinary skill in the art will thereby be able to determine a relative tRNA abundance table (see for example TABLE 2) for different cells or tissues. From such comparisons, one or more synonymous codons may be selected such that the or each synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an

iso-tRNA corresponding to an existing codon of the parent nucleic acid sequence, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to other cells or tissues of the mammal.

Advantageously, a synonymous codon is selected such that its corresponding iso-tRNA in the target cell or tissue is at a level which is at least 110%, preferably at least 200%, more preferably at least 500%, and most preferably at least 1000%, of that expressed in the or each other cell or tissue of the mammal.

Suitably, synonymous codons for selective expression of a protein in a differentiated cell, preferably a differentiated keratinocyte, are selected from the group consisting of gca (Ala), cuu (Leu) and cua (Leu).

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Synonymous codons for selective expression of a protein in an undifferentiated cell, preferably an undifferentiated keratinocyte, are suitably selected from the group consisting of cga (Arg), cci (Pro) and aag (Asn).

Analysis of codon usage

Alternatively, synonymous codons may be selected by analyzing the frequency at which codons are used by genes expressed in (i) particular cells or tissues, (ii) substantially all cells or tissues of the mammal, or (iii) an organism which may infect particular cells or tissues of the mammal.

Codon frequency tables as well as suitable methods for determining frequency of codon usage in an organism are described, for example, in an article by

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Sharp et al (1988, Nucleic Acids Res. 16 8207-8211) which is hereby incorporated by reference.

relative level of gene expression The (e.g., detectable protein expression vs no detectable protein expression) can provide an indirect measure of the relative abundance of specific iso-tRNAs expressed in different cells or tissues. For example, a virus may be capable of propagating within a first cell or tissue (which may include a cell or tissue at a specific stage of differentiation) but substantially incapable of propagating in a second cell or tissue (which may include a cell or tissue at another stage of differentiation). Comparison of the pattern of codon usage by genes of the virus with the pattern of codon usage by genes expressed in the second cell or tissue may thus provide indirectly a set of synonymous codons which correspond to iso-tRNAs expressed at relatively high abundance in the first cell or tissue relative to the second cell or tissue and vice versa. Simultaneously, the above comparison may also provide indirectly a set of synonymous codons which correspond to iso-tRNAs expressed at relatively high abundance in the second cell or tissue relative to the first cell or tissue.

From the foregoing, a synonymous codon according to the invention may correspond to a codon including, but not limited to, (1) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the target cell or tissue, (2) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the or each other cell or tissue, (3) a codon used at relatively

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high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the mammal, (4) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the target cell or tissue, (5) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the or each other cell or tissue, (6) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the mammal, (7) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes of another organism, and (8) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of another organism.

10 For example, codons used at a relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the mammal may be selected from the group consisting of: cuc (Leu), cuu, (Leu), cug (Leu), uua (Leu), uug (Leu); cgg (Arg), cgc (Arg), aga (Arg), agg (Arg); agu (Ser), agc (Ser), ucu (Ser), ucc (Ser), and uca (Ser). Alternatively, such codons may include auu (Ile), auc (Ile); guu (Val), guc (Val), gug (Val); acu (Thr), acc (Thr), aca (Thr); gcu (Ala), gcc (Ala), gca (Ala); cag (Glu); ggc (Gly), gga (Gly), ggg (Gly).

Codons used at a relatively low frequency by genes of the mammal are described, for example, in Sharp et al (1988, supra). Such codons may comprise cua (Leu); cga (Arg), cgu (Arg); ucg (Ser). Alternatively, such codons may include aua (Ile); gua (Val); acg (Thr); gcg (Ala); caa (Glu); ggu (Gly).

Construction of synthetic nucleic acid sequences

The step of replacing synonymous codons for existing codons may be effected by any suitable technique. For example, in vitro mutagenesis methods may be employed which are well known to those of skill in the art. Suitable mutagenesis methods are

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described for example in the relevant sections of Ausubel, et al. (supra) and of Sambrook, et al., (supra) which are hereby incorporated by reference. Alternatively, suitable methods for altering DNA are set forth, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos 4,184,917, 4,321,365 and 4,351,901, which are hereby incorporated by reference. Instead of in vitro mutagenesis, the second nucleic acid sequence may be synthesized de novo using readily available machinery. Sequential synthesis of DNA is described, for example, in U.S. Patent No 4,293,652, which is hereby incorporated by reference. However, it should be noted that the present invention is not dependent on and not directed any one particular technique for replacing to synonymous codons for existing codons.

It is not necessary to replace all the existing codons of the parent nucleic acid sequence with synonymous codons each corresponding to a isotRNA expressed in relatively high abundance in the target cell compared to other cells. Increased expression may be accomplished even with partial replacement. Preferably, the replacing step affects 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, more preferably 35%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70% or more of the existing codons of the parent nucleic acid sequence.

The parent nucleic acid sequence is preferably a natural gene. By "natural gene" is meant a gene that naturally encodes the protein. However, it is possible that the parent nucleic acid sequence encodes a protein that is not naturally-occurring but has been engineered using recombinant techniques.

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The parent nucleic acid sequence need not be obtained from the mammal but may be obtained from any suitable source such as from a eukaryotic or prokaryotic organism. For example, the parent nucleic acid sequence may be obtained from another mammal or other animal. Alternatively, the parent nucleic acid sequence may be obtained from a pathogenic organism. In such a case, a natural host of the pathogenic organism is preferably a mammal. For example, the pathogenic organism may be a yeast, bacterium or virus.

For example, suitable proteins which may be used for selective expression in accordance with the invention include, but are not limited to the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) protein, and adenosine deaminase (ADA). In the case of CFTR, a parent nucleic acid sequence encoding the CFTR protein which may be utilized to produce the synthetic nucleic acid sequence is described, for example, in Riordan et al (1989, Science 245 1066-1073), and in the GenBank database under Accession No. HUMCFTRM, which are hereby incorporated by reference.

The term "nucleic acid sequence" as used herein designates mRNA, RNA, cRNA, cDNA or DNA.

Regulatory nucleotide sequences which may be utilized to regulate expression of the synthetic nucleic acid sequence include, but are not limited to, a promoter, an enhancer, and a transcriptional terminator. Such regulatory sequences are well known to those of skill in the art.

Synthetic nucleic acid sequences according to the invention may be operably linked to one or more

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regulatory sequences in the form of an expression vector. By "vector" is meant a nucleic acid molecule, preferably a DNA molecule derived, for example, from a plasmid, bacteriophage, or mammalian or insect virus, into which a synthetic nucleic acid sequence may be inserted or cloned. A vector preferably contains one or more unique restriction sites and may be capable of replication in a defined host autonomous cell including the target cell or tissue or a precursor cell or precursor tissue thereof, or be integratable with the genome of the defined host such that the cloned sequence is reproducible. Thus, by "expression vector" is meant any autonomous element capable of directing the synthesis of a protein. Such expression vectors are well known by practitioners in the art.

The term "precursor cell" as used herein refers to a cell that gives rise to the target cell.

The invention also contemplates synthetic nucleic acid sub-sequences encoding desired portions of the protein. A nucleic acid sub-sequence encodes a domain of the protein having a function associated therewith and preferably encodes at least 10, 20, 50, 100, 150, or 500 contiguous amino acids of the protein.

The step of introducing the synthetic nucleic acid sequence into a target cell will differ depending on the intended use and or species, and may involve non-viral and viral vectors, cationic liposomes, retroviruses and adenoviruses such as, for example, described in Mulligan, R.C., (1993 Science 260 926-932) which is hereby incorporated by reference. Such methods may include:

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(i) Local application of the synthetic nucleic acid sequence by injection (Wolff et al., 1990, Science 247 1465-1468, which is hereby incorporated by reference), surgical implantation, instillation or any other means. This method may also be used in combination with local application by injection, surgical implantation, instillation or any other means, of cells responsive to the protein encoded by the synthetic nucleic acid sequence so as to increase the effectiveness of that treatment. This method may also be used in combination with local application by injection, surgical implantation, instillation or any other means, of another factor or factors required for the activity of said protein.

15 (ii) General systemic delivery by injection of DNA, (Calabretta et al., 1993, Cancer Treat. Rev. 19 169-179, which is hereby incorporated by reference), or RNA, alone or in combination with liposomes (Zhu et al., 1993, Science 261 209-212, which is hereby incorporated by reference), viral 20 capsids or nanoparticles (Bertling et al., 1991, Biotech. Appl. Biochem. 13 390-405, which is hereby incorporated by reference) or any other mediator of delivery. Improved targeting might be achieved by 25 linking the synthetic nucleic acid sequence to a targeting molecule (the so-called "magic bullet" approach employing for example, an antibody), or by local application by injection, surgical implantation or any other means, of another factor or factors 30 required for the activity of the protein produced from said synthetic nucleic acid sequence, or of cells responsive to said protein.

(iii) Injection or implantation or delivery by any means, of cells that have been modified ex vivo by transfection (for example, in the presence of calcium phosphate: Chen et al., 1987, Mole. Cell Biochem. 7 2745-2752, or of cationic lipids and 5 polyamines: Rose et al., 1991, BioTech. 10 520-525, which articles are hereby incorporated by reference), infection, injection, electroporation (Shigekawa et 1988, BioTech. 6 742-751, which is hereby incorporated by reference) or any other way so as to 10 increase the expression of said synthetic nucleic acid sequence in those cells. The modification may be by plasmid, bacteriophage, cosmid, viral mediated (such as adenoviral or retroviral; Mulligan, 1993, Science 260 926-932; Miller, 1992, Nature 357 455-460; 15 Salmons et al., 1993, Hum. Gen. Ther. 4 129-141, which articles are hereby incorporated by reference) or other vectors, or other agents of modification such as liposomes (Zhu et al., 1993, Science 261 209-212, which is hereby incorporated by reference), viral 20 capsids or nanoparticles (Bertling et al., 1991, Biotech. Appl. Biochem. 13 390-405, which is hereby incorporated by reference), or any other mediator of modification. The use of cells as a delivery vehicle for genes or gene products has been described by Barr 25 et al., 1991, Science 254 1507-1512 and by Dhawan et al., 1991, Science 254 1509-1512, which articles are hereby incorporated by reference. Treated cells may be delivered in combination with any nutrient, growth factor, matrix or other agent that will promote their 30 survival in the treated subject.

In yet another aspect, the invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising the synthetic nucleic sequences of the invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

By "pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier" is 5 solid meant a or liquid filler, diluent or encapsulating substance that may be safely used in systemic administration. Depending upon the particular route of administration, a variety of pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, well known in 10 the art may be used. These carriers may be selected from a group including sugars, starches, cellulose and its derivatives, malt, gelatin, talc, calcium sulfate, vegetable oils, synthetic oils, polyols, alginic acid, phosphate buffered solutions, emulsifiers, isotonic 15 saline, and pyrogen-free water.

Any suitable technique may be employed for determining expression of the protein from said synthetic nucleic acid sequence in a particular cell or tissue. For example, expression can be measured using an antibody specific for the protein of interest or portion thereof. Such antibodies and measurement techniques are well known to those skilled in the art.

Applications

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In one embodiment of the present invention, the target cell is suitably a differentiated cell. Advantageously, the protein which is desired to be selectively expressed in the differentiated cell is not expressible in a precursor cell thereof (such as an undifferentiated or less differentiated cell of the mammal) from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level

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sufficient to effect a particular function associated with said protein. In this embodiment, the step of replacing at least one existing codon with a codon is characterized in that synonymous the synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to the iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in relatively higher abundance in the differentiated cell compared to the precursor cell. Accordingly, a synthetic nucleic acid sequence is produced having altered translational kinetics compared to the parent nucleic acid sequence wherein the protein is expressible in the differentiated cell at a level sufficient to effect a particular function associated with said protein, but wherein the protein is not expressible precursor cell at a level sufficient to effect said function.

As used herein, the term "function" refers to a biological, or therapeutic function.

20 The above embodiment may be utilized advantageously for somatic gene therapy where overexpression of a protein in undifferentiated cells such as stems cells has undesirable consequences including death or differentiation of the stem cells.

25 In such a case, a suitable protein may include cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) protein, and adenosine deaminase (ADA).

The differentiated cell may comprise a cell of any lineage including a cell of epithelial, hemopoetic or neural origin. For example, the differentiated cell may be a mature differentiated keratinocyte.

Targeting expression of a protein to progeny of a stem cell but not to the stem cell itself synthetic nucleic acid sequence The produced above may be transfected directly into the 5 differentiated cell for the desired function alternatively, transfected into the precursor cell. For example, in the case of ADA deficiency, expression of ADA in stem cells may result in loss of stem phenotype which is undesirable. However, 10 advantageous therapy may reside in transducing autologous marrow stem cells with a synthetic nucleic acid sequence operably linked to one or more regulatory sequences, wherein existing codons of the wild type ADA gene have been replaced with synonymous 15 codons each corresponding to an iso-tRNA expressed in relatively high abundance in differentiated lymphocytes compared to the marrow stem cells. transduced stem cells may then be reinfused into the This approach will result in transduced 20 patient. marrow stem cells which are not capable of expressing ADA themselves, but which are able to give rise to a renewable population of differentiated lymphocytes which are capable of expressing ADA at levels sufficient to permit a therapeutic effect. In this 25 regard, a suitable cell source for this purpose may comprise stem cells isolated as CD34 positive cells from a patient's peripheral blood or marrow. For gene delivery, a suitable vector may include a retrovirus or Adeno associated virus. 30

Alternatively, in the case of inducing cell mediated immunity, dendritic cells are important

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antigen presenting cells (APC) but have a very limited life span for antigen presentation once activated of between 14 to 21 days. Consequently, dendritic cells provide relatively short-term immune stimulation that may not be optimal. However, in accordance with the present invention, a long-term immune stimulation may be provided by transducing autologous bone marrowderived CD34 positive dendritic cell precursors with a synthetic nucleotide sequence encoding an antigen. such as the melanoma antigen MART-1, wherein the synthetic sequence is operably linked to one or more regulatory sequences, and wherein existing codons of a wild type nucleotide sequence encoding MART-1 have been replaced with synonymous codons each corresponding to an iso-tRNA expressed in relatively high abundance in dendritic cells compared to the dendritic cell precursors. The transduced dendritic precursors may then be reinfused into the This approach will result in transduced patient. dendritic cell precursors which are not capable of expressing MART-1 themselves, but which are able to give rise to a renewable population of dendritic cells which are capable of expressing MART-1 at levels sufficient to permit a lifelong intermittent restimulation of a cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL) response to the MART-1 antigen.

Targeting expression of a protein to a stem cell but not to progeny of the stem cell

In an alternate embodiment, the target cell may be an undifferentiated cell wherein the protein is not expressible in said undifferentiated cell, from a

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parent nucleic acid sequence encoding the protein, at a level sufficient to effect a particular function associated with the protein. In such a case, at least one existing codon of the parent nucleic acid sequence is replaced with a synonymous codon corresponding to iso-tRNA which, when compared to the iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in relatively higher abundance in the undifferentiated cell compared to a differentiated cell. This results in a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to said parent nucleic acid sequence wherein the protein is expressible in the undifferentiated cell at a level sufficient to effect a particular function associated with the protein, but wherein the protein is not expressible in differentiated cells derived from the undifferentiated cell at a level sufficient to effect said function.

This alternate embodiment may, by way of example, be used to permit expression of a transcriptional regulatory protein which expressed in a particular undifferentiated cell or stem cell facilitates differentiation of the stem cell along a particular cell lineage. It will be appreciated that in such a case, the regulatory protein is normally expressed from a gene in which the existing codons correspond to iso-tRNAs which are in relatively low abundance in the stem cell compared to other iso-tRNAs and that therefore the protein is not capable of being expressed at levels sufficient for commitment of the stem cell to differentiate along a particular cell lineage. It will also be apparent such commitment to differentiate along a that

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particular cell lineage may be utilized to prevent production of a particular lineage of cells such as cancer cells.

Alternatively, the method according to this embodiment may be used to express a transcriptional regulatory protein that is involved in the production of a therapeutic agent or agents. Such a protein may include, for example, NF-kappa-B transcription factor p65 subunit (NF-kappa-B p65) which is involved in the production of interleukin-2 (IL-2), interleukin-3 (IL-3) and granulocyte and macrophage colony stimulating factor (GMCSF). NF-kappa-B p65 is encoded naturally by a nucleotide sequence comprising a number of existing codons each corresponding to an iso-tRNA expressed in relatively low abundance in stem cells. Accordingly, such sequence may be used as the parent nucleic acid sequence according to this embodiment. A suitable nucleotide encoding this protein is sequence described, for example, in Lyle et al (1994, Gene 138 265-266) and in the EMBL database under Accession No HSNFKB65A which are hereby incorporated by reference.

A suitable undifferentiated cell which may be utilized in accordance with the present embodiment includes but is not limited to a stem cell, such as a CD34 positive hemopoetic stem cell.

The present embodiment may also be used advantageously for gene therapy where ongoing regulated expression of a transgene is desirable. For example, secure but reversible regulation of fertility is desirable in veterinary practice and in humans. Such regulation may be effected by transducing autologous breast ductal epithelial cells with a

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synthetic nucleic acid encoding a leutinising hormone (LH) antagonist or a leutinising hormone releasing hormone (LHRH) antagonist under the control of one or more regulatory sequences. The synthetic nucleic acid may be produced by replacing existing codons of a nucleic parent acid with synonymous codons corresponding to iso-tRNAs expressed in relatively high abundance in resting breast ductal epithelial cells compared to differentiated cells arising therefrom. Once the transduced cells are implanted back into the patient, expression may be switched off by oral administration of progestagen, forcing the differentiation of the majority of the stem cells and loss of expression of the antagonist. Once pregnancy established, the suppression would be is sustaining by the naturally produced progestagen. The iso-tRNA composition of resting and oestrogen drived breast epithelial cells may be established by first obtaining resting cells from reduction mammoplasty, and determining the cellular tRNA composition in the presence and absence of oestrogen. The synthetic nucleic acid sequence may be introduced into resting epithelial cells autologous by cell electroporation ex vivo, and the transduced cells may be subsequently transplanted subcutaneously into the patient. Progestagen may be administered as required to reverse regulation of fertility.

Targeting expression of a toxin to a tumor cell but not to any other cells of the mammal

Many toxins and drugs are available that can kill tumor cells. However, these toxins and drugs

are generally toxic for all dividing cells. This problem be nevertheless ameliorated may establishing the isoacceptor tRNA composition in a tumor clone, and constructing a synthetic toxin gene (e.g., ricin gene) or a synthetic anti-proliferation gene (e.g., the tumor supressor p53) using synonymous corresponding to codons iso-tRNAs expressed relatively high abundance in the tumor clone compared to normal dividing cells of the mammal. The synthetic gene is then introduced into the patient by suitable means to selectively express the synthetic genes in tumor cells.

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Alternatively, a chemotherapy enhancing product gene (i.e., a drug resistance gene e.g., the multi-drug resistance gene) using a codon pattern unlikely to be expressed in the tumor efficiently may be employed.

Leptins are proteins known to control satiety. By analogy with animal data, however, if too much leptin is administered to a patient, leptin-induced starvation might occur. Advantageously, a synthetic gene encoding leptin may be constructed including synonymous codons corresponding to iso-tRNAs expressed at relatively high levels in activated adipocytes compared to non-activated adipocytes. The synthetic gene may then be introduced into the patient by suitable means such that leptin is only expressed substantially in activated adipocytes as opposed to non-activated adipocytes. As body fat turnover diminishes under the influence of leptin reduced

appetite, the metabolic activity of the adipocytes falls and the leptin production decreases correspondingly.

Targeting expression of a protein to a stage of the cell cycle

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In another embodiment of the invention, the target cell may be a non-cycling cell. In this case, the protein which is desired to be selectively expressed in the non-cycling cell is expressible in a cycling cell of the mammal from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level sufficient to effect a particular function associated with the protein. The synonymous codons are selected such that each corresponds to an which, when compared to the iso-tRNA iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the non-cycling cell compared to the cycling cell. Accordingly, a synthetic nucleic acid sequence is produced having altered translational kinetics compared to the parent nucleic acid sequence wherein the protein is expressible in the non-cycling cell at a level sufficient to effect a particular function associated with said protein, but wherein the protein is not expressible in the non-cycling cell to effect said function.

The term "non-cycling cell" as used herein refers to a cell that has withdrawn from the cell cycle and has entered the GO state. In this state, it is well known that transcription of endogenous genes and protein translation are at substantially reduced levels compared to phases of the cell cycle, namely G1, S, G2 and M.

By "cycling cell" is meant a cell which is in one of the above phases of the cell cycle.

Expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue by <u>in vivo</u> expression of iso-tRNAs in the target cell or tissue

In another aspect, the invention extends to method wherein a protein may be selectively expressed in a target cell by introducing into the cell an auxiliary nucleic acid sequence capable of expressing therein one or more isoaccepting transfer RNAs which are not expressed in relatively high abundance in the cell but which are rate limiting for expression of the protein from a parent nucleic acid to a level sufficient for effecting a function associated with the protein. In this embodiment, introduction of the auxiliary nucleic acid in the cell changes the translational sequence kinetics of the parent nucleic acid sequence such that said protein is expressed at a level sufficient to effect a function associated with the protein.

The step of introducing the auxiliary nucleic acid sequence into the target cell or a tissue comprising a plurality of these cells may be effected by any suitable means. For example, analogous methodologies for introduction of the synthetic nucleic acid sequence referred to above may be employed for delivery of the auxiliary nucleic acid sequence into said cycling cell.

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Assembly of virus particles in cells which do not normally permit assembly of virus particles

another aspect, the invention yet extends to a method for producing a virus particle in a cycling eukaryotic cell. The virus particle will comprise at least one protein necessary for virus assembly, wherein the at least one protein is not expressed in the cell from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein. This method is characterized by replacing at least one existing codon of the parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to produce a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to the parent nucleic acid sequence such that the at least protein is expressible from the synthetic nucleic acid sequence in the cell at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein. The synthetic nucleic acid sequence so produced is operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences and is then introduced into the cell or a precursor cell thereof. The at least one protein is expressed subsequently in the cell in the presence of other viral proteins required for assembly of the virus particle to thereby produce the virus particle.

Advantageously, the synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA expressed at relatively high level in the cell compared to the iso-tRNAs corresponding to the existing codons.

The cycling cell may be any cell in which the virus is capable of replication. Suitably, the cycling cell is a eukaryotic cell. Preferably, the

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cycling cell for production of the virus particle is a eukaryotic cell line capable of being grown in vitro such as, for example, CV-1 cells, COS cells, yeast or spodoptera cells.

Suitably, the at least one protein of the virus particle are viral capsid proteins. Preferably, the viral capsid proteins comprise L1 and/or L2 proteins of papillomavirus.

The other viral proteins required for assembly of the virus particle in the cell may be expressed from another nucleic acid sequence(s) which suitably contain the rest of the viral genome. In the case of the at least one protein comprising L1 and/or L2 of papillomavirus, said other nucleic acid sequence(s) preferably comprises the papillomavirus genome without the nucleotide sequences encoding L1 and/or L2.

In yet a further aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for producing a virus particle in a cycling cell, said virus particle comprising at least one protein necessary for assembly of said virus particle, wherein said at least one protein is not expressed in said cell from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein, and wherein at least one existing codon of said parent nucleic acid sequence is rate limiting for the production said at least one protein to said level, said method including the step of introducing into said cell a nucleic acid sequence capable of expressing therein an isoaccepting transfer RNA specific for said at least one codon.

In yet a further aspect, the invention resides in virus particles resulting from the above methods.

The invention further contemplates cells or tissues containing therein the synthetic nucleic acid sequences of the invention, or alternatively, cells or tissues produced from the methods of the invention.

The invention is further described with reference to the following non-limiting examples.

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EXAMPLE 1

Expression of synthetic L1 and L2 protein in undifferentiated cells.

15 <u>Materials and Methods</u>

Codon replacements in the bovine PV (BPV)
L1 and L2 genes

The DNA and amino acid sequences of the wild-type L1 (SEQ ID NOS:1,2) and L2 genes (SEQ ID NOS:5,6) are shown respectively in Figures 1A and 1B. To determine whether the presence of rare codons in wild-type L1 (SEQ ID NO:1) and L2 (SEQ ID NO:5) genes (Table 1) inhibited translation, we synthesized the L1 (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 (SEQ ID NO:7) genes by using synonymous substitutions as shown. To construct the synthetic sequences, we synthesized 11 pairs of oligonucleotides for L1 and 10 pairs of oligonucleotides for L2. Each pair of oligonucleotides has restriction sites incorporated to facilitate subsequent cloning (Figures 1A and 1B). The degenerate oligonucleotides were used to amplify

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L1 and L2 sequences by PCR using a plasmid with BPV1 genome as the template. The amplified fragments were cut with appropriate enzymes and sequentially ligated to pUC18 vector, producing pUCHBL1 and pUCHBL2. The synthetic L1 (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 (SEQ ID NO:7) sequences were sequenced and found to be error-free, and then sub-cloned into the mammalian expression vector pCDNA3 containing SV40 ori (Invitrogen), giving expression plasmids pCDNA/HBL1 and pCDNA/HBL2. To compare expression of L1 and L2 with that of the original sequences, the wild type L1 (SEQ ID NO:1) and L2 (SEQ ID NO:5) genes were cloned into the pCDNA3 vector, resulting in pCDNA/BPVL1wt and pCDNA/BPVL2wt.

15 Immunofluorescence and Western blot staining

For immunoblotting assays, Cos-1 cells in were transfected with 2 μg L1 or L2 plates expression plasmids using lipofectamine (Gibco). 36 hrs after transfection, cells were washed with 0.15M phosphate buffered 0.9% NaCl (PBS) and lysed in SDS loading buffer. The cellular proteins were separated by 10% SDS PAGE and blotted onto nitrocellulose membrane. The L1 or L2 proteins were identified by electrochemiluminescence (Amersham, UK), using BPV1 L1 (DAKO) or L2-specific (17) antisera. For immunofluorescent staining, Cos-1 cells were grown on 8-chamber slides, transfected with plasmids, and fixed and permeabilised with 85% ethanol 36hr after transfection. The slides were blocked with 5% milk-PBS and probed with L1 or L2-specific antisera, followed by FITC-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG (Sigma). For GFP or

PGFP plasmid transfected cells, the cell were fixed with 4% buffered formaldehyde and viewed by epifluorescence microscopy.

5 Northern blotting

Cos cells transfected with various plasmids were used to extract cytoplasmic or total RNA using RNeasy mini kit according to the QIAGEN supplier's handbook. Briefly, for cytoplasmic purification, buffer RLN (50 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 140 mM NaCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂ and 0.5% NP40) was directly added to monolayer cells and cells were lysed in 4 °C for 5 min. After the nuclei were removed by centrifugation, cytoplasmic RNAs were purified by column. For total RNA extraction, the monolayer cells were lysed using buffer RLT supplied by the kit and RNA was purified by spin column. The purified RNAs were separated by 1.5% agarose gel in the presence of formaldehyde. The RNAs were then blotted onto nylon membrane and probed with mixed 5'-end labelled L1 (a) 1:1 wt and HBL1 fragments; (b) 1:1 mixed 5'-end labelled L2 wt and HBL2 fragments; (c) 1:1 mixed 5'end labelled GFP and PGFP fragments or (d) randomly labelled PAGDH fragment. The blots were washed extensively at 65 °C and exposed to X-ray films for three days.

Results

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To test the hypothesis that the codon composition of the genes encoding the L1 and L2 capsid proteins of papillomavirus (PV) contributes to their preferential expression in differentiated epithelial

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cells, we produced synthetic BPV1 L1 (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 (SEQ ID NO:7) genes, substituting codons preferentially used in mammalian genes for the codons frequently present in the wild type BPV1 L1 and L2 sequences which are rare in eukaryotic genes (Figures 1A, 1B).

For the L1 gene, a total of 202 base substitutions were made in 196 codons, changing the encoded amino acid sequence (Figure 1A). This synthetic "humanized" BPV L1 gene (SEQ ID NO:3) was designated HBL1. In a similarly modified BPV1 L2 gene (SEQ ID NO:7) designated HBL2, 303 bases were changed to substitute 290 less frequently used codons with the corresponding preferentially used codons. Using the synthetic HBL1 (SEQ ID NO:3) and HBL2 (SEQ constructed two eukaryotic ID NO:7) genes, we expression plasmids based on pCDNA3, and designated pCDNA/HBL1 and pCDNA/HBL2. Similar expression plasmids, constructed with the wild type BPV1 L1 (SEQ ID NO:1) and BPV1 L2 (SEQ ID NO:5) genes, were designated pCDNA/BPVL1wt and pCDNA/BPVL2wt, respectively. In each of these plasmids the SV40 ori allowed replication in Cos-1 cells, and the L1 or L2 gene was driven by a strong constitutive CMV promoter.

To compare the expression of the synthetic humanized and the wild type BPV1 L1 or BPV1 L2 genes, we separately transfected Cos-1 cells with each of the L1 and L2 plasmids described above. Transfected cells were analyzed for expression of L1 (SEQ ID NO:2,4) or L2 (SEQ ID NO:6,8) protein by immunofluorescence 36 hr after transfection (Figures 2A and 3A). Cells transfected with the pCDNA3 expression plasmid

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containing the synthetic humanized L1 (SEQ ID NO:3) or L2 (SEQ ID NO:7) genes were observed to produce large amounts of the corresponding protein, while cells transfected with expression plasmids with the wild type L1 (SEQ ID NO:1) or L2 (SEQ ID NO:5) sequences produced no detectable L1 or L2 protein (Figures 2A and 3A, see nuclear staining of L1 and L2 proteins). To compare more accurately the expression of the different L1 and L2 constructs, L1 and L2 protein expression was assessed by immunoblot in Cos-1 cells transfected with the wild type or synthetic humanized BPV1 L1 or L2 pCDNA3 expression constructs (Figures 2B and 3B). Large amounts of immunoreactive L1 and L2 proteins were expressed from the synthetic humanized L1 (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 (SEQ ID NO:7) sequences, but no L1 or L2 protein was expressed from the wild type L1 and L2 sequences (SEQ ID NO:1,5).

To establish whether the alterations to the primary sequence of the L1 and L2 mRNA which resulted from the codon alterations also affected steady state expression of the corresponding message, mRNA was prepared from Cos-1 cells transfected with the various capsid protein gene constructs. Using GAPDH as an internal standard it was established by Northern blot that two to three times more modified than wild type L1 mRNA, and similar levels of wild type and modified L2 mRNA were present in the cytoplasm of transfected cells (Figures 2C and 3C). The amount of L1 or L2 protein expressed per arbitrary unit of L1 or L2 mRNA was at least 100 fold higher for the humanized gene constructs than for the natural gene constructs.

EXAMPLE 2

Papillomavirus late protein translation in vitro

5 Materials and Methods

In vitro translation assay

One microgram of each plasmid was incubated with 20 μ Ci 35 S-methionine (Amersham) and 40 μ L T7 coupled rabbit reticulocyte or wheat germ lysates (Promega). Translation was performed at 30 °C and stopped by adding SDS loading buffer. The L1 proteins were separated by 10% SDS PAGE and examined by autoradiography.

Production of aminoacyl-tRNA

2.5 x 10^{-4} M tRNA (Boehringer) was added to a 20 μ L reaction containing 10 mM Tris-acetate, pH.7.8, 44 mM KCl, 12 mM MgCl₂, 9 mM -mercaptoethanol, 38 mM ATP, 0.25 mM GTP and 7 μ L rabbit reticulocyte extract. The reaction was carried out at 25 °C for 20 min, and 30 μ L H₂O was added to the reaction to dilute the tRNAs to 1 x 10^{-4} M. The aminoacyl-tRNAs were then aliquoted and stored at -70 °C.

25 Results

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As the major limitation to expression of the wild type BPV L1 and L2 genes appeared to be translational in our system we wished to test whether this limitation reflected a limited availability of the appropriate tRNA species for gene translation. As transient expression of the synthetic genes within

intact cells may be regulated by many factors, we tested our hypothesis in a cell free system using rabbit reticulocyte lysate (RRL) or wheat germ lysate to examine gene translation. Similar amounts of plasmids expressing the wild type or synthetic 5 humanized BPV1 L1 gene were added to a T7-DNA polymerase coupled RRL transcription/translation system in the presence of 35S-methionine. After 20 minutes, translated proteins were separated by SDS PAGE and visualized by autoradiography. Efficient 10 translation of the modified L1 gene was observed (Figure 4, top panel, lane 2), while translation of the wild type BPV1 L1 sequence resulted in a weak 55 kDa L1 band (Figure 4, upper panel, lane 1). reasoned that although the wild type sequence was not 15 optimized for translation in RRL, some translation would occur as there would be no cellular mRNA species competing for the 'rare' codons present in the wild type L1 sequence. The above data suggest that the observed difference in efficiency of translation of 20 the wild type and synthetic humanized L1 genes is a consequence of limited availability of the tRNAs required for translation of the rare codons present in the wild type gene. We therefore expected that 25 addition of excess tRNA to the in vitro translation system would overcome the inhibition of translation of the wild type L1 gene. To address this question, 10⁻⁵ M aminoacyl-tRNAs from yeast were added into the RRL translation system, and L1 protein synthesis was assessed. Introduction of exogenous tRNAs resulted in 30 a dramatic improvement in translation of the wild type L1 sequence, which now gave a yield of L1 protein

that observed with comparable to the synthetic humanized L1 sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) (Figure 4, top panel). Enhancement of translation of the wild type L1 gene (SEQ ID NO:1) by aminoacyl-tRNA was dosedependent, with an optimum efficiency at 10⁻⁵ M tRNA. 5 As addition of exogenous tRNA improved the yield of L1 protein translated from the wild type L1 gene sequence (SEQ ID NO:1), we assessed the speed of translation of wild type and humanized L1 mRNA. Samples were collected from the translation mixture every 2 10 minutes, starting at the 8th minute. Translation of L1 (SEQ ID NO:2,4) from the wild type sequence (SEQ ID was much slower than from the humanized L1 NO:1) sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) (Figure 4 bottom panel), and the retardation of translation could be completely 15 overcome by adding exogenous tRNA from commercially available yeast tRNA. Yeast tRNA was chosen in the above analysis because the codon usage in yeast is similar to that of papillomavirus (Table 1). Addition of exogenous tRNA did not significantly improve the 20 translation of the humanized L1 gene (SEQ ID NO:3), indicating that this sequence was optimized with regard to codon usage for the rabbit reticulocyte translation machinery (Figure 4, bottom panel). In separate experiments we established that wt L1 25 translation could also be enhanced by liver tRNA (Figure 4), and by tRNAs extracted from bovine skin epidermis, which presumably constitutes a mixture of tRNAs from differentiated and undifferentiated cells 30 (data not shown).

EXAMPLE 3

Translation of wild type L1 is efficient in wheat germ extract.

To further test our hypothesis that tRNA availability is a determinant of expression of the wild type BPV1 L1 gene (SEQ ID NO:1), we examined the translation of L1 in a cell type in which a quite different set of tRNAs would be available. In a wheat germ translation system, wild type L1 mRNA translated as efficiently as humanized L1 mRNA, and addition of exogenous aminoacyl-tRNAs did not improve the translation efficiency of either wild type or humanized sequences (Figure 4 bottom panel). This indicated that in wheat germ there are sufficient of the tRNAs which are limiting for translation of wild type L1 sequence in RRL to allow efficient L1 translation.

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EXAMPLE 4

Modified late genes can be expressed in undifferentiated cells from papillomavirus promoter(s)

While our data presented above indicates that translation is limiting for the production of BPV1 capsid proteins in our test system, these experiments were conducted in systems which are not truly representative of the viral late gene transcription from the BPV genome, in part because the genes were driven by a strong CMV promoter. We therefore wished to establish whether synthetic

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humanized BPV capsid protein mRNA would be translated efficiently than the wild type more mRNA, transcribed from the natural BPV1 promoter. This would establish whether translation was indeed one of the limiting factors for expression of BPV1 late genes driven from the natural cryptic late gene promoter in an undifferentiated cell. The BPV genome was cleaved 4450 and 6958 with BamHI/HindIII at original L1 (nt 4186-5595) and L2 (5068-7095) ORFs were removed. The synthetic humanized L2 gene (SEQ ID NO:7), together with an SV40 ori sequence to allow plasmid replication in eukaryotic cells, were inserted into the BPV genome lacking L1/L2 ORF sequences. plasmid (Figure 5A) was designated pCICR1. A similar plasmid was constructed with wild type (SEQ ID NO:5) rather than synthetic humanized L2 and designated Cos-1 cells were transfected with these pCICR2. plasmids and L2 protein expression examined by immunofluorescence of transfected cells. Synthetic humanized L2 (SEQ ID NO:7), driven by the natural BPV-1 promoter, was efficiently expressed, whereas the wild type L2 sequence (SEQ ID NO:5), driven from a similar construct, produced no immunoreactive L2 (SEQ NO:6,8) (Figure protein ID 5B). As undifferentiated cells supported the expression of the humanized L2 gene (SEQ ID NO:7) but not the wild type L2 (SEQ ID NO:5) expressed from the cryptic late BPV

observations from experiments using the CMV promoter.

However, the plasmids tested here contained SV40 ori,
designed to replicate the DNA in Cos cells. The
increased copy number of the BPV1 L2 plasmids or the

promoter, the results confirmed

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transcriptional enhancing activity of the SV40 ori might explain in part the increased efficiency of expression of L2 in this experimental system when compared with infected skin. However, the marked difference in expression between the natural and humanized genes seen with a CMV promoter construct is still observed with the natural promoter.

EXAMPLE 5

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Substitution of papillomavirus-preferred codons prevents translation but not transcription of a non-papillomavirus gene in undifferentiated cells.

Materials and Methods

15 Codon replacement in gfp gene

To construct a modified gfp gene (SEQ ID NO:11) using papillomavirus preferred codons (PGFP), 6 pairs of oligonucleotides were synthesized. Each pair of oligonucleotides has restriction sites incorporated and was used to amplify gfp using a humanized gfp gene (SEQ ID NO:9) (GIBCO) as template. The PCR fragments were ligated into the pUC18 vector to produce pUCPGFP. The PGFP gene was sequenced, and cloned into BamHI site of the same mammalian expression vector, pCDNA3, under the CMV promoter. The DNA and deduced amino acid sequences of the humanized GFP gene are shown in Figures 1C. Mutations introduced into the wild type gfp gene (SEQ ID NO:9) to produce the Pgfp gene (SEQ NO:11) indicated above the corresponding are ID nucleotides of the wild-type sequence.

Results

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To further confirm that codon usage can alter gene expression in mammalian cells, we made a further variant on a synthetic gfp gene modified for optimal expression in eukaryotic cells (Zolotukhin, et al., 1996. J. Virol. 70:4646-4654). In our variant, codons optimized for expression in eukaryotic cells substituted by those preferentially used in were papillomavirus late genes. Of 240 codons in the humanized gfp gene (SEQ ID NO:9), which expresses high levels of fluorescent protein in cultured cells, 156 were changed to the corresponding papillomavirus late gene-preferred codons to produce a new gfp gene (SEQ ID NO:11) designated Pgfp. Expression of Pgfp (SEQ ID NO:11) in undifferentiated cells was compared with that of humanized gfp (SEQ ID NO:9). Cos-1 cells transfected with the humanized gfp (SEQ ID NO:9) produced a bright fluorescent signal after 24 hrs, while cells transfected with Pgfp (SEQ ID NO:11) produced only a faint fluorescent signal (Figure 6A). To confirm that this difference reflected differing translational efficacy, qfp specific mRNA was tested both transfections and found in not to significantly different (Figure 6B.). Thus, codon usage and corresponding tRNA availability apparently determines the observed restriction of expression of PV late genes, and modification of codon usage in other genes similarly prevents their expression in undifferentiated cells.

EXAMPLE 6

PGFP with papillomavirus-preferred codons is efficiently expressed in vivo in differentiated mouse keratinocytes.

Materials and Methods

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Delivery of plasmid DNA into mouse skin by gene gun

10 Fifty microgram of DNA was coated onto 25
μg gold micro-carriers by calcium precipitation,
following the manufacturer's instructions (Bio-Rad).
C57/bl mouse skin was bombarded with gold particles
coated with DNA plasmid at a pressure of 600 psi.
Serial sections were taken from the skin and examined
for distribution of the particles, confirming that a
pressure of 600 psi could deliver particles throughout
the epidermis.

Results

20 Mice were shot with gold beads carrying PGFP DNA plasmid and, 24 hrs later, skin samples were cut from the site of DNA delivery and examined for expression of GFP protein (SEQ ID NO:10,12). Fluorescence was detected mostly in upper keratinocyte 25 layers, representing the differentiated epithelium, and was not seen in undifferentiated basal cells. contrast, skin sections shot with the humanized GFP plasmid showed fluorescence in cells randomly distributed throughout the whole epidermis (Figure 7). Although GFP-positive cells were rare in both PGFP-30 (SEQ ID NO:11) and GFP-inoculated (SEQ ID NO:9) mouse

skin, fluorescence was observed only in differentiated strata in the PGFP sample (SEQ ID NO:11), whereas fluorescence was observed throughout the epidermis in GFP-inoculated (SEQ ID NO:9) mouse skin. This result confirmed that the use of papillomavirus-preferred codons resulted in the protein being expressed in an epithelial differentiation-dependent manner.

EXAMPLE 7

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Microinjection of yeast tRNA and wild type
L1 gene into cultured cells

To test if yeast tRNA could facilitate expression of wild type BPV-1 L1 (SEQ ID NO:1) yeast uses a similar set of codons to those observed in papillomavirus for its own genes), 2 pL of mixtures containing tRNA (2 mg/mL) (purified yeast tRNA (Boehringer Mannheim) or bovine liver tRNA - control) and BPV L1 DNA (2 μ g/mL) can be injected into CV-1 cells (Lu and Campisi, 1992, Proc. Natl. Sci. U. S. A. 89 3889-3893). The injected cells can then be cultured for 48 hrs at 37 °C and examined for expression of L1 gene by standard immunofluoresence methods using BPV L1-specific antibody and quantified by FACS analysis (Qi et al 1996, Virology 216 35-45).

EXAMPLE 8

Establishment of a cell line which can continuously produce HPV virus particles

To produce infectious PV, various methods have been tried including the epithelial raft culture

system (Dollard et al 1992, Genes Dev 6 1131-1142), and cell lines containing BPV-1 episomal DNA, and infected by BPV-1 L1/L2 recombinant vaccinia (Zhou et al 1993, J. Gen. Virol. 74 763-768) or transfected by SFV RNA (Roden et al 1996, J. Virol. 70 5875-5883). 5 The yield of particles is in each case low. In a reduction to practice of our discovery, synthetic BPV (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 genes (SEQ ID NO:7) (as Ll described in Example 1) can be used to produce infectious BPV in a cell line containing BPV-1 10 episomal DNA. Fibroblast cell lines (CON/BPV) containing BPV-1 episomal DNA (Zhou et al 1993, J. Gen. Virol. 74 763-768) can be used for transfection of the synthetic BPV-1 L1 (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 genes (SEQ ID NO:7) under control of CMV promoter. 15 BPV particles may then be purified from the cell lysate and the purified particles examined for the presence of BPV-1 genome. Standard methods such with lipofectamine (BRL) transfection and G418 selection of transfected cells can be utilized to 20 generate suitable transfectants expressing humanized (SEQ ID NO:3) and L2 (SEQ Ll ID NO:7) in the background of BPV-1 episomal DNA. Examination of L1 and L2 protein expression can be performed using rabbit anti-BPV L1 or rabbit anti-BPV L2 polyclonal 25 antibodies. BPV particles can then be purified using our published methods (Zhou et al 1995, Virology 214 and can be characterized by electron 167-176) microscopy and DNA blotting. The infectivity of BPV particles isolated from the cultured cells may be 30 focus formation assays using tested in C127 fibroblasts.

EXAMPLE 9

Method for extracting and measuring tRNA from tissues Tissue (100g) is homogenized in a Waring Blender with 150 phenol 5 \mathfrak{m} of (Mallinckrodt, Analytical Reagent, 88%) saturated with water (15:3) and 150 mL of 1.0 M NaCl, 0.005 M EDTA in 0.1 M Trisbuffer, pH 7.5. The homogenate was spun chloride for ten minutes at top speed in the International clinical centrifuge and the upper layer was carefully 10 decanted off. To this aqueous layer, three volumes of 95% ethanol were added. The resultant precipitate was spun down at top speed in the International clinical centrifuge and resuspended in 250 \mathfrak{mL} of Tris/chloride buffer, pH 7.5. This solution was added 15 (flow rate of 15-20 drops per minute) to a column (2 x DEAE-cellulose previously of 2 of 10 cm) g equilibrated with cold 0.1 M Tris-chloride buffer pH The column was then washed with 1 L of Trischloride buffer, pH 7.5 and the RNA eluted with 1.0 M 20 NaCl in 0.1 M Tris-chloride buffer, pH 7.5. The first 10 mL of NaCl solution were discarded as "hold-up." Sufficient salt solution (60-80 mL) was then collected until the optical density of the effluent was less than three at 260 nm. This solution was extracted 25 twice with an equal volume of phenol saturated with water and twice with ether. To the aqueous solution containing the RNA, three volumes of 95% ethanol were added and the solution wag allowed to stand overnight 30 in the cold. The precipitate was spun down and washed first with 80% and then twice with 95% ethanol and

dried in a vacuum. Approximately 60 mg of soluble RNA were obtained from a 100-g lot of rat liver.

Quantitating tRNAs

The following nylon membranes are used: 5 Biodine A and B (PALL). For the preparation of dot blots, the tRNA samples (from 1 pg to 5 ng) are denatured at 60 °C for 15 min in 1-5 μ L of 15% formaldehyde. 10x SSC (SSC is NaCl 0.3 M, tri-sodium citrate 0.03 M). The samples are spotted in 1 μL 10 aliquots onto the membranes that have been soaked for 15 min in deionized water and slightly dried between sheets of 3MM Whatman paper prior to the two application of the samples. The tRNAs are fixed covalently (in the membranes by ultraviolet-15 irradiation (10 mm using an ultraviolet lamp at 254 nm and 100 W strength at a distance of 20 cm) and the membranes are baked for 2-3 h at 80 °C.

A 5' end labelled synthetic deoxyribooligonucleotide complementary to the A54-A73 sequence
of the tRNA is used as a probe for the hybridization
experiments. Labelling of the oligonucleotide is
performed by direct phosphorylation of the 5' OH'
ended probe.

For hybridisation experiments, the UVirradiated membranes are first preincubated for 5 h at
50 C in 50% deionized formamide, 5 x SSC, 1% SDS,
0.04% Ficoll 0.04% polyvinylpyrrolidone and 250 μL/mL
of sonicated salmon sperm DNA using 5 mL of buffer for
100 cm² of membrane. Hybridization is finally
performed overnight at 50 °C in the above solution
(2.5 mL/100 cm²) where the labeled probe has been

added. After hybridization, the membranes are washed twice in 2 x SSC, 0.1% SDS for 5 min at room temperature, twice in 2 x SSC, 1% SDS for 30 mm at 60 °C and finally in 0.1 x SSC. 0.1% SDS for 30 min at room temperature. To detect the hybridized probes the membranes are exposed for 16 h to Fuji XR film at 70 °C with an intensifying screen.

Sequence of tRNA probes

The sequences of the tRNA probes are as

| 10 | · | The | sequences | OI | CIIC | CICUI | P = 0.23 0.2 |
|----|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|------|-------|---------------------|
| | follows: | | | | | | |
| | Ala ^{GCA} : | 5′-7 | PAAGGACTGTA | AGAC | TT | (SEQ | ID NO:13) |
| 15 | Arg ^{CGA} : | 5'-0 | CGAGCCAGCCA | GGAG | TC | (SEQ | ID NO:14) |
| | Asn ^{AAC} : | 5'-0 | CTAGATTGGCA | GGAA | TT | (SEQ | ID NO:15) |
| | Asp ^{GAC} : | 5′-5 | TAAGATATATA | GATI | TAT | (SEQ | ID NO:16) |
| | Csy ^{TGC} : | 5′-2 | AAGTCTTAGTA | GAGA | TT | (SEQ | ID NO:17) |
| | Glu ^{GAA} : | 5 ' -' | TATTTCTACAC | CAGCA | TT | (SEQ | ID NO:18) |
| | ${	t Gln}^{{	t CAA}}$: | 5'- | CTAGGACAATA | AGGA | TT | (SEQ | ID NO:19) |
| 20 | Gly ^{GGA} : | 5′- | TACTCTCTTC | rggg" | TTT | (SEQ | ID NO:20) |
| | His ^{cac} : | 5'- | TGCCGTGACT | CGGA' | TTC | (SEQ | ID NO:21) |
| | Ile ^{ATC} : | 5′- | TAGAAATAAG | AGGG | CTT | (SEQ | ID NO:22) |
| | Leu ^{CTA} : | 5 '- | TACTTTTATT | TGGA' | TTT | (SEQ | ID NO:23) |
| 25 | Leu ^{CTT} : | 5′- | TATTAGGGAG | AGGA | TTT | (SEQ | ID NO:24) |
| | Lys ^{AAA} : | 5 ' - | -TCACTATGGA | GATT | TTA | (SEÇ | ID NO:25) |
| | Lys ^{AAG} : | 5 ' - | -CGCCCAACGT | GGGG | CTC | (SEC | ID NO:26) |
| | Met ^{elong} | 5 <i>'</i> - | -TAGTACGGGA | AGGA | TTT | (SEÇ |) ID NO:27) |
| | Phe ^{TTC} : | 5 ' - | -TGTTTATGGG | ATAC | 'AAT | (SEÇ |) ID NO:28) |
| 30 | Pro ^{cca} : | 5′· | -TCAAGAAGAA | GGAG | CTA | (SE) | Q ID NO:29) |
| | Pro ^{cci} : | 5 <i>'</i> · | -GGGCTCGTC | GGGA | TTT | (SE | Q ID NO:30) |
| | Ser ^{AGC} : | 5 <i>'</i> | -ATAAGAAAG | SAAGA | ATCG | (SE | Q ID NO:31) |
| | Thr ^{aca} : | 5 <i>'</i> | -TGTCTTGAG | AGAC | GAAG | (SE | Q ID NO:32) |
| | Tyr ^{TAC} : | 5 <i>'</i> | -TGGTAAAAA | GAGG! | TTT | (SE | Q ID NO:33) |
| | - | | | | | | |

Val^{GTA}: 5'-TCAGAGTGTTCATTGGT (SEQ ID NO:34)

EXAMPLE 10

Comparison of the relative abundance of tRNA species in undifferentiated and differentiated keratinocytes

Materials and Methods

Isolation of epidermal cells

2-day old mice were killed and their skins removed. The skins were digested with 0.25% trypsin PBS at 4 °C overnight. The epidermis was separated from the dermis using forceps and minced with scissors in 10% FCS DMEM medium. The cell suspension was first filtered through a 1 mm and then a 0.2 mm nylon net. The cell suspension was then pelleted and washed twice with PBS.

Density gradient centrifugation

The keratinocytes were resuspended in 30% 20 Percoll and separated by centrifugation through a discontinuous Percoll gradient (1.085, 1.075 and 1.050 g/mL) at 1200 x g at room temperature for 25 min. The cells were then washed with PBS and used to extract tRNA.

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tRNA purification

The cells were lysed in 5 mL of lysis buffer (0.2 M NaOH, 1% SDS) for 10 min at room temperature. The lysate was neutralized with 5 mL of 3.0 M potassium acetate (pH 5.5). After centrifugation, the supernatant was diluted with 3

volumes of 100 mM Tris (pH 7.5) and added to a DEAE column equilibrated with 100 mM Tris (pH 7.5). An equal volume of isopropanol was added to the aqueous solution containing tRNA, and the solution was allowed to stand overnight at 4 °C. The tRNA was spun down and washed with 75% ethanol, then dissolved in RNase-free water.

tRNA blotting

10 ng of each tRNA sample in 1 μ L was denatured in 60°C for 15 min in 4 μ L formaldehyde and 5 μ L 20 x SSC. The samples were spotted in 1 μ L aliquots onto charged nylon membrane (Amersham), and the tRNAs were fixed with UV and probed with 32 P-oligonucleotides.

Results

Comparison of the abundance of the tRNA species in undifferentiated and differentiated keratinocytes showed that the levels of some tRNA populations changed dramatically. For example, the levels of tRNAs specific for Ala^{GCA}, Leu^{CTT}, Leu^{CTA} were increased in differentiated cells while tRNAs for Arg^{CGA}, Pro^{CCI}, Asn^{AAG} were more abundant in undifferentiated keratinocytes (see Table 2).

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GENERAL DISCUSSION

In the present specification the inventors have confirmed that one determinant of the efficiency of translation of a gene in mammalian cells is its codon composition. This observation has commonly been

made when genes from prokaryotic organisms have been expressed in eukaryotic cells (Smith, D. W., 1996, Biotechnol. Prog. 12:417-422). The present inventors have also presented evidence that mRNA encoding the capsid genes of papillomavirus are not effectively 5 translated in cultured eukaryotic cells, apparently because tRNA availability is rate limiting for translation, and that the block to PV late gene translation in eukaryotic cells in culture can be overcome by altering the codon usage of the late genes 10 match the consensus for mammalian genes, or alternatively by providing exogenous tRNAs. Alterations to mRNA secondary structure or protein binding (Sokolowski, et al., 1998, J. Virol. 72:1504-1515) as a consequence of the changes to the primary 15 sequence of the PV capsid genes might contribute to the observed differences in efficiency of translation of the natural and modified PV capsid gene mRNAs in However, the enhancement cultured cells. translation of the natural but not the modified mRNA 20 that was observed after addition of tRNA in a mammalian in vitro translation system, which was not observed in a plant translation system, strengthens the argument that tRNA availability is rate limiting for translation of the natural gene in mammalian 25 cells. A shortage of critical tRNAs could result in slowed elongation of the nascent peptide or premature termination of translation (Oba, et al., 1991, Biochimie 73:1109-1112). Slowed elongation appears to be the major consequence for the PV late gene. 30 Analysis of codon usage in the PV genome shows that PV late genes use many codons that mammalian cells rarely

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For example, PV frequently uses UUA for leucine, for arginine, ACA for threonine, and AUA for CGU isoleucine, whereas these codons are significantly less often used in mammalian genes. In contrast, papillomavirus late genes can be expressed efficiently in yeast (Jansen, et al., 1995, Vaccine 13:1509-1514) (Sasagawa, et al., 1995, Virology 206:126-135) and the codon composition of yeast and papillomavirus genes are similar (Table 1). An apparent exception is that PV L1 genes can be efficiently expressed in insect cells (Kirnbauer, et al., 1992, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:12180-12184) using recombinant baculovirus, or various undifferentiated mammalian cells using recombinant vaccinia (Zhou, et al., 1991, Virology **185**:251-257). As infection with vaccinia or baculovirus down regulates cellular protein synthesis, the efficient expression of the L1 capsid proteins these circumstances because under occur may less cellular mRNA is available in a virus infected cell to compete with the L1 mRNA for the rarer tRNAs.

Codon composition could be a more general determinant of gene expression within different stages of differentiation of the same tissue. Although the genetic code is essentially universal, different organisms show differences in codon composition of their genes, while the codon composition of genes tends to be relatively similar for all genes within each organism, and matched to the population of isotRNAs for that organism (Ikemura, T., 1981, J. Mol. Biol. 146:1-21). However, populations of tRNAs in differentiating and neoplastic cells are different (Kanduc, D., 1997, Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 342:1-6;

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Yang, and Comb, 1968, J. Mol. Biol. 31:138-142; Yang, and Novelli, 1968, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 31: 534-539) and the tRNA populations also vary in cells growing under different growth conditions (Doi, et al., 1968, J. Biol. Chem. 243:945-951). Accordingly, the inventors believe that codon composition and tRNA availability together provide a primitive mechanism for spatial and/or temporal regulation of gene expression. It is well recognized that the G+C content of many dsDNA viruses, a crude marker for viral gene codon composition, is markedly different from the G+C content of the DNA of the cells they infect (Strauss, et al., 1995, "Virus Evolution" in Virology (eds. Fields, B. N., et al.), Lipipincott-Raven, Philadelphia, pp 153-171). Viruses therefore have evolved to take advantage of codon composition to regulate their own program of gene expression, perhaps to avoid expression of lethal quantities of viral proteins in undifferentiated cells where the virus utilizes the cellular machinery to replicate its genome.

As the inventors' observations represent an apparently novel mechanism of regulation of gene translation within a single tissue, it is relevant to consider how this relates to previously proposed hypotheses for the restriction of expression of PV late genes to differentiated epithelium. A number of explanations have been proposed for the observation that PV late genes are only effectively expressed in differentiated epithelium. Reduced late gene transcription may reflect dependence of transcription from the late promoter on transcription factors

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expressed only in differentiated epithelium, or may alternatively be due to suppression of late promoter transcription by viral (Stubenrauch, et al., 1996, J. Virol. 70:119-126) or cellular gene products expressed in undifferentiated cells. The "late" promoters of HPV31b and of HPV5 (Haller, et al., 1995, Virology 214:245-255; Hummel, et al., 1992, J. Virol. 66:6070are described as differentiation dependent, 6080) although the search for relevant transcription control in differentiated keratinocytes factors conventional footprinting and DNA binding studies has to date been unrewarding. Our data show that capsid proteins are not translated from PV L1 and L2 mRNAs in cells transfected with CMV promoter-based expression vectors (Fig. 2), suggesting that in addition to any transcriptional controls that may exist that there is block to post-transcriptional capsid protein undifferentiated cells. synthesis in resembling 5' splice donor sites exist within L1 or L2 mRNA or within flanking untranslated message which are inhibitory to transcription of genes with which they are associated (Kennedy, et al., 1991, J. Virol. 65:2093-2097) (Furth, et al., 1994, Mol. Cell. Biol. 14:5278-5289). Other AU rich sequences in L1 or L2 promote mRNA degradation (Sokolowski, et al., mRNA 1997, Oncogene 15:2303-2319). These mechanisms inhibiting L1 and L2 expression in undifferentiated cells have yet to be shown to be inactive in differentiated epithelium, to explain the successful translation of late genes in this tissue.

Because inhibitory RNA sequences within the L1 coding sequence could have been rendered non-

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functional by the systematic codon substitution employed in the experiments described herein and the untranslated inhibitory sequences were not included in the inventors' test system, the respective roles of inhibitory sequences and codon mismatch in suppression of PV late gene expression in cultured mammalian cells cannot be determined. However, regulatory sequences promoting RNA degradation or inhibiting translation are presumed to act through interaction with nuclear or cytoplasmic proteins (Sokolowski, et al., 1998, J. Virol. 72:1504-1515), and inefficient translation of native sequence L1 mRNA was observed in a cell free translation system from anucleate cells, demonstrating that codon composition of the PV late genes must play some role in regulation of PV late gene translation.

Further evidence supporting the hypothesis that codon composition is an important determinant of PV capsid gene expression was gathered from analysis of the 84 PV L1 sequences currently available in Genebank. The codon composition of the L1 genes, and particularly the frequency of usage of the rarer codons, was essentially the same across all the published sequences (data not shown) as would be predicted by the similar G+C content of papillomavirus genomes. The PV L1 gene is relatively conserved at the amino acid level, showing 60 - 80% amino acid homology between PV genotypes, as might be by the constraints on capsid protein expected function. There are, however, no obvious constraining influences on the codon composition of the PV late genes beyond those of the inventors' hypothesis, as the late gene region does not code for other genes,

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either in other reading frames or on the complementary DNA strand, and has no known *cis* acting regulatory functions. If codon composition of the capsid genes were not important for PV function, a considerable heterogeneity of codon usage might therefore be expected, given the evolutionary diversity of PVs (Chan, et al. 1995, J. Virol. 69:3074-3083).

Taken together, the data and evidence outlined herein makes a strong case that codon usage is a significant determinant of expression of PV late undifferentiated in genes differentiated and epithelial cells, and that this observation is generalizable. The relative role of instability and codon mismatch in determining expression in differentiated tissues will require of transcriptional comparisons activity and translation of the L1 or L2 genes driven from strong constitutive promoters in differentiated undifferentiated epithelium. Such work should now be feasible using either transgenic technology or keratinocyte raft cultures.

Although mechanisms of transcriptional regulation of PV L1 or L2 gene expression in the superficial layer of differentiated epithelium have been proposed (Zeltner et al., 1994, J. Virol. 68:3620; Brown, et al., 1995, Virology 214:259; Stoler et al., 1992, Hum. Pathol. 23:117; Hummel et al., 1995, J. Virol. 69:3381; Haller et al., 1995, Virology 214:245; Barksdale and Baker, 1993, J. Virol. 67:5605), measurable PV late gene mRNA is not always associated with production of late proteins (Zeltner et al., 1994, supra; Ozbun and Meyers, 1997, J. Virol.

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71:5161), and the data presented here suggest that translation regulation may play a major part in controlling PV late gene expression. This observation has implications as herein described for the regulation of expression of genes related to the specialised functions of any differentiated tissue, and also for targeting of expression of therapeutic genes to such tissue while avoiding the potentially deleterious consequences of expression of the exogenous gene in a self renewing stem cell population.

The present invention has been described in terms of particular embodiments found or proposed by the present inventors to comprise preferred modes for the practice of the invention. Those of skill in the art will appreciate that, in light of the present disclosure, numerous modifications and changes may be made in the particular embodiments exemplified without departing from the scope of the invention. All such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims.

TABLE LEGENDS

TABLE 1

The codon usage data for human, cow yeast and wheat proteins are derived from published results(18). The BPV1 data are from the sequences in the Genbank database.

TABLE 2

Each iso-acceptor tRNA with anticodon shown as superscript are shown on top row. The "+" indicates the abundance of tRNA wherein each "+" indicates about 10 fold increase.

TABLES

TABLE 1
Frequency (per one thousand) of codon usage for individual organisms.

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| Amino | Codons | Human | Cow | Yeast | Wheat | BPVL1/ |
|-------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|--------|
| acids | | | | | | L2 |
| | | | | | | |
| ARG | CGA | 5.4 | 5.5 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 7.2 |
| | CGC | 11.3 | 12.2 | 2.0 | 7.5 | 4.1 |
| | CGG | 10.4 | 11.2 | 1.1 | 4.6 | 5.1 |
| | CGU | 4.7 | 3.7 | 7.5 | 1.1 | 10.4 |
| | AGA | 9.9 | 9.9 | 24.0 | 4.1 | 14.4 |
| | AGG | 11.1 | 11.4 | 7.5 | 7.1 | 9.3 |
| LEU | CUA | 6.2 | 4.9 | 11.8 | 12.1 | 18.6 |
| | CUC | 19.9 | 21:2 | 4.1 | 18.6 | 6.2 |
| | CUG | 42.5 | 46.6 | 8.3 | 15.5 | 15.5 |
| | CUU | 10.7 | 10.6 | 9.6 | 6.5 | 20.7 |
| | UUA | 5.3 | 4.0 | 24.5 | 1.8 | 14.5 |
| | UUG | 11.0 | 9.6 | 32.1 | 15.3 | 15.5 |
| SER | UCA | 9.3 | 7.6 | 15.6 | 14.6 | 16.6 |
| | UCC | 17.7 | 17.6 | 14.4 | 10.1 | 11.4 |
| | UCG | 4.2 | 4.5 | 6.5 | 9.6 | 6.2 |
| • | UCU | 13.2 | 11.2 | 24.6 | 14.8 | 15.5 |
| | AGC | 18.7 | 18.7 | 7.1 | 12.8 | 12.4 |
| | AGU | 9.4 | 8.6 | 11.7 | 12.9 | 21.7 |
| THR | ACA | 14.4 | 11.4 | 15.6 | 4.6 | 37.3 |
| | ACC | 23.0 | 21.1 | 13.9 | 15.9 | 19.7 |
| | ACG | 6.7 | 7.8 | 6.7 | 4.5 | 4.1 |
| , | ACU | 12.7 | 9.6 | 22.0 | 11.8 | 28.0 |

| Amino | Codons | Human | Cow | Yeast | Wheat | BPVL1/ |
|-------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|--------|
| acids | | | | | | L2 |
| | | | | | | |
| PRO | CCA | 14.6 | 12.0 | 21.4 | 71.2 | 22.8 |
| | CCC | 20.0 | 19.2 | 5.9 | 11.1 | 15.5 |
| | CCG | 6.5 | 7.9 | 4.1 | 19.4 | 0.0 |
| | CCU | 15.5 | 14.6 | 12.8 | 10.3 | 33.1 |
| ALA | GCA | 14.0 | 13.1 | 15.3 | 11.2 | 33.1 |
| | GCC | 29.1 | 35.8 | 15.5 | 19.5 | 17.6 |
| | GCG | 7.2 | 9.3 | 5.1 | 13.8 | 4.1 |
| | GCU | 19.6 | 19.1 | 28.3 | 9.6 | 13.5 |
| GLY | GGA | 17.1 | 16.2 | 8.9 | 25.9 | 22.8 |
| | GGC | 25.4 | 28.1 | 8.9 | 28.0 | 12.4 |
| | GGG | 17.3 | 19.2 | 5.1 | 28.5 | 22.8 |
| | GGU | 11.2 | 11.8 | 34.9 | 9.6 | 18.6 |
| VAL | GUA | 5.9 | 5.1 | 10.0 | 4.4 | 15.5 |
| | GUC | 16.3 | 18.4 | 14.9 | 14.8 | 6.2 |
| | GUG | 30.9 | 32.9 | 9.5 | 12.9 | 23.8 |
| | GUU | 10.4 | 9.9 | 26.6 | 11.6 | 16.6 |
| LYS | AAA | 22.2 | 21.6 | 37.7 | 4.5 | 37.2 |
| | AAG | 34.9 | 37.1 | 35.2 | 17.4 | 13.5 |
| ASN | AAC | 22.6 | 22.4 | 25.8 | 14.2 | 10.3 |
| | AAU | 16.6 | 12.5 | 31.4 | 6.7 | 24.8 |
| GLN | CAA | 11.1 | 9.7 | 29.8 | 171.8 | 22.8 |
| | CAG | 33.6 | 34.4 | 10.4 | 79.4 | 17.6 |
| HIS | CAC | 14.2 | 14.0 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 6.2 |
| | CAU | 9.3 | 7.5 | 12.3 | 7.1 | 13.4 |
| GLU | GAA | 26.8 | 24.4 | 48.9 | 7.8 | 36.2 |
| | GAG | 41.4 | 45.4 | 16.9 | 19.7 | 21.7 |
| ASP | GAC | 29.0 | 31.5 | 22.3 | 13.0 | 18.6 |
| | GAU | 21.7 | 19.2 | 37.0 | 4.0 | 33.1 |

| Amino | Codons | Human | Cow | Yeast | Wheat | BPVL1/ |
|-------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|--------|
| acids | | | | | | L2 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| TYR | UAC | 18.8 | 20.3 | 16.5 | 24.5 | 17.6 |
| | UAU | 12.5 | 10.5 | 16.5 | 12.5 | 18.6 |
| CYS | UGC | 14.5 | 13.9 | 3.7 | 14.8 | 5.2 |
| | UGU | 9.9 | 9.4 | 7.6 | 4.9 | 5.2 |
| PHE | UUC | 22.6 | 25.5 | 20.0 | 14.1 | 7.2 |
| | UUU . | 15.8 | 17.0 | 23.2 | 15.0 | 23.8 |
| ILE | AUA | 5.8 | 5.2 | 12.8 | 5.4 | 22.7 |
| | AUC | 24.3 | 25.8 | 18.4 | 19.7 | 8.2 |
| | AUU | 14.9 | 13.1 | 31.1 | 10.7 | 20.7 |

TABLE 2

tRNA population changes as KC starts to differentiate.

| tRNA | Argcca | Ala ^{GCA} | His ^{cac} | Leu ^{CIT} | Leu ^{CTA} | Lys ^{AAG} | Lys | Met ^{Ini} | Pro ^{cci} |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Supra | + | +++ | + | +++ | +++ | ++ | + | + | + |
| Basal | +++ | + | ++ | + | + | + | + | ++ | +++ |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| tRNA | Val ^{GTA} | Val ^{GTI} | His ^{cac} | Asn ^{AAG} | Thraca | MetElo | Gly ^{GGA} | | |
| Supra | ++ | + | ++ | + | + | + | + | | , |
| Basal | + | + | + | +++ | + | ++ | + | | |

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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- of selectively expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue of a mammal, wherein said selective expression is effected by replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to form said synthetic nucleic acid sequence.
- 2. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein said synonymous codon corresponds to an isotRNA which, when compared to an isotRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to one or more other cells or tissues of the mammal.
 - 3. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein said synonymous codon corresponds to an isotRNA which, when compared to an isotRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a precursor cell or tissue.
 - 4. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein said synonymous codon corresponds to an isotRNA which, when compared to an isotRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a cell or tissue derived therefrom.
- 5. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein said synonymous codons for selective expression of said protein are selected from the group consisting of gca (Ala), cuu (Leu) and cua (Leu), and said target is a differentiated cell.

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- 6. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 5, wherein said differentiated cell is a differentiated keratinocyte.
- 7. The nucleic acid sequence of any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein said corresponding iso-tRNA in said target cell or tissue is at a level which is at least 110%, preferably at least 200%, more preferably at least 500%, and most preferably at least 1000%, of that expressed in the or each other cell or tissue of the mammal.
 - 8. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the synonymous codon may be selected from the group consisting of (1) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the target cell or tissue, (2) a codon used relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the or each other cell or tissue, (3) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes, preferably highly expressed genes, of the mammal, (4) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the target cell or tissue, (5) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the or each other cell or tissue, (6) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of the mammal, (7) a codon used at relatively high frequency by genes of another organism, and (8) a codon used at relatively low frequency by genes of another organism.
 - 9. The nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the at least one existing codon and the synonymous codon are selected such that said protein is expressed from said synthetic nucleic acid sequence in said target cell or tissue at a level which is at

least 110%, preferably at least 200%, more preferably at least 500%, and most preferably at least 1000%, of that expressed from said parent nucleic acid sequence in said target cell or tissue.

- protein in a target cell or tissue of a mammal, wherein said selective expression is effected by replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to form said synthetic nucleic acid sequence.
 - 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said method is further characterized the steps of:
 - (a) replacing at least one existing codon of a parent nucleic acid sequence encoding said protein with a synonymous codon to produce a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to said parent nucleic acid sequence such that said protein is selectively expressible in said target cell or tissue;

- (b) administering to the mammal and introducing into said target cell or tissue, or a precursor cell or precursor tissue thereof, said synthetic nucleic acid sequence operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences; and
- (c) selectively expressing said protein in said target cell or tissue.
 - 12. The method of claim 11 further including, prior to step (a):
- (i) measuring relative abundance of different iso-tRNAs in said target cell or tissue, and in one or more other cells or tissues of the mammal; and

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(ii) identifying said at least one existing codon and said synonymous codon based on said measurement, wherein said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the existing codon, is in higher abundance in said target cell or tissue relative to the or each other cell or tissue of the mammal.

- 13. The method of claim 12, wherein step (ii) is further characterized in that said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a precursor cell or tissue.
- is further characterized in that said synonymous codon corresponds to an iso-tRNA which, when compared to an iso-tRNA corresponding to the at least one existing codon, is in higher abundance in the target cell or tissue relative to a cell or tissue derived therefrom.
 - prior to step (a), identifying said at least one existing codon and said synonymous codon based on respective relative frequencies of particular codons used by genes selected from the group consisting of (I) genes of the target cell or tissue, (II) genes of the or each other cell or tissue, (III) genes of the mammal, and (IV) genes of another organism.
 - 16. A method for expressing a protein in a target cell or tissue from a first nucleic acid sequence including the steps of:

introducing into said target cell or tissue, or a precursor cell or precursor tissue

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thereof, a second nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one isoaccepting transfer RNA wherein said second nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences, and wherein said at least one isoaccepting transfer RNA is normally in relatively low abundance in said target cell or tissue and corresponds to a codon of said first nucleic acid sequence.

- a cycling eukaryotic cell, said virus particle in comprising at least one protein necessary for assembly of said virus particle, wherein said at least one protein is not expressed in said cell from a parent nucleic acid sequence at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein, said method including the steps of:
 - (a) replacing at least one existing codon of said parent nucleic acid sequence with a synonymous codon to produce a synthetic nucleic acid sequence having altered translational kinetics compared to said parent nucleic acid sequence such that said at least one protein is expressible from said synthetic nucleic acid sequence in said cell at a level sufficient to permit virus assembly therein;
- (b) introducing into said cell or a precursor thereof said synthetic nucleic acid sequence operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleotide sequences; and
- (c) expressing said at least one protein
 in said cell in the presence of other viral proteins
 required for assembly of said virus particle to
 thereby produce said virus particle.

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- A method for producing a virus particle in 18. a cycling cell, said virus particle comprising at least one protein necessary for assembly of said virus particle, wherein said at least one protein is not expressed in said cell from a parent nucleic acid a level sufficient to permit virus at sequence assembly therein, and wherein at least one existing codon of said parent nucleic acid sequence is rate limiting for the production said at least one protein to said level, said method including the step of introducing into said cell a nucleic acid sequence capable of expressing therein an isoaccepting transfer RNA specific for said at least one codon.
- 19. A vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence according to any of claims 1 to 9 wherein said synthetic nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to one or more regulatory nucleic acid sequences.
 - 20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid sequence according to any of claims 1 to 9 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
 - 21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a vector according to claim 19 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 22. A cell or tissue comprising therein a nucleic acid sequence according to any of claims 1 to 9.
 - 23. A cell or tissue comprising therein a vector according to claim 19.
- 24. A cell or tissue resulting from a method according to any one of claims 10 to 18.
 - 25. Virus particles produced from a method according to claims 17 or 18.

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

| | | | | | | | | | | (SauI) | | | | | | (Ball) | | | | | |
|--------|-----|----|---|-----|---|---|-----|-------------|---|--------|---|---|-----|-----|---|--------|---|---|----------------|---|---|
| U | CCT | Сч | | ATT | н | | TAT | × | | AAT | z | | GCA | K | | TGG | X | Ŋ | ACT | H | |
| | ACC | H | | AGC | Ø | ט | CCA | വ | Ŋ | GCA | 4 | | TIL | ĮΞŧ | | GTG | > | ŭ | GGT | ರ | |
| H | CCA | Д | | AAA | × | ט | CAT | Ħ | Ö | TCT | Ø | | CAA | Q | | CTG | ı | ט | GGA | ש | |
| ט | CCT | д | | AGA | ĸ | | GGA | ש | Ü | GIC | > | | AAT | Z | | CGG | × | ט | CTT | ᆸ | |
| Ŋ | CIC | Ч | | | | | H | Н | | AAG | × | | CCC | ф | | GAG | 闰 | | CCT | Д | |
| ט | TAT | Ħ | | GIG | > | ט | ACT | E4 | | CCT | Д | | GAT | Д | | AAA | × | | CAG | Q | |
| | CIG | H | | TAT | Ħ | Ö | CTA | ы | Ü | GLL | > | | CCT | Д | ט | AGT | Ø | ט | GGG | Ö | |
| | AAG | ¥ | | ACC | H | | CTG | н | | | | | | | | | Д | | AGA | ĸ | |
| | CAG | ø | | GAA | 闰 | | CGC | ĸ | ტ | AAA | × | | CAA | Ø | | AAC | Z | | TCC | Ø | |
| | CCC | | | AGT | Ø | | GAG | 闰 | | BCC | Æ | ט | ATA | Н | | CAC | Ħ | | \mathtt{GTG} | > | |
| | CAA | | | TGC | บ | | ACG | [- 4 | | GGG | U | | AAA | × | Ü | GTT | > | | CAG | Q | |
| | CAA | | | CTT | ı | | GAA | 闰 | | ATC | н | ט | TTT | Íτι | Ö | ACT | H | | GTG | > | |
| | TGG | M | | GTG | | | GCA | Ą | U | TCT | Ŋ | U | GTA | > | | AGG | R | U | CGT | ש | |
| ت ت | TTG | H | | AAG | × | | CAT | Ħ | | GTG | > | | AGG | 民 | | GAC | А | U | ATA | Н | |
| ט | BDB | Ą | | AGC | Ø | | TAT | Ħ | Ü | CCA | Д | | TAT | Ħ | | CCT | Д | р | GIC | > | |
| | ATG | X | Ŋ | GTA | > | | TTT | Ľ٤ | | TAC | Ħ | | CAG | Q | Ŋ | CIA | ᆸ | | CCA | Д | C |
| | H | | | 49 | | | 97 | | | 145 | | | 193 | | | 241 | | | 289 | | |

Figure 1A

| | | | (Stul) | | | | | | (XbaI) | | | | | | |
|---------|---|--------------|--------|----|---|-----|---|---|--------|---|--------|------|---|------|----|
| GTG | > | | 299 | ტ | | GCT | K | | CTA | H | | GAA | 闰 | GAA | Œ |
| GAA AAT | Z | | ACA | E | | CCT | д | | CGI | ĸ | ט | ATA | н | AAA | × |
| GAA | 凶 | _ල | CAA | O) | | ACC | H | ŭ | GAT | Q | | CAC | Ħ | TTC | ޱ, |
| GCA | A | | AAA | × | | TGT | บ | ט | ACT | H | | AAG | × | AAC | Z |
| GAT | Ω | | AGG | ĸ | | GGC | ರ | Ŋ | GTT | > | | AAC | Z | Baca | Ø |
| | | | GAC | | | | | | TGT | ບ | | AAA | × | GCA | 4 |
| TTG | н | ט | GAT | À | ט | TTG | н | | CCA | ሲ | C G | TTA | ᆈ | GGT | Ö |
| GCT | ¥ | ט | ACA | H | | CTG | H | | CGT | R | Ö | GAA | 闰 | TTT | ĬΨ |
| AAT | Z | Ö | ACA | H | ט | ATT | Н | | CCC | K | U | CTT | н | 999 | ರ |
| | | | CAA | | | | | | ACA | H | | CCT | Д | ATT | н |
| | | | ACC | | | | | | ACA | H | | CCT | Д | GAA | Þ |
| | Д | | ACC | H | Ü | CAA | Q | | TGG | Z | | TGC | บ | ATG | × |
| CAC | Ħ | | GIC | > | | AAG | × | | TAT | þ | | Baca | ¥ | ATG | |
| 999 | Ö | | AAA | × | ט | GCT | A | | GAA | 덜 | | CCC | ರ | GAT | А |
| ACT | H | • | AGA | R | | GAT | А | | 999 | ೮ | บ | AAT | z | GGG | ტ |
| GTA | > | | AAT | z | U | CIA | ᆸ | | GAA | 团 | | GAA | 团 | GAT | А |
| 337 | | | 385 | | | 433 | | | 481 | | | 529 | | 577 | |

Figure 1A cont'd

Figure 1A cont'd

| | | | | (NaeI) | | | | | | | | | | | | (Spel) | | | | |
|---|-----|---|---|--------|------------|---|-----|--------------|---|-----|-----|---|-----|---|---|--------|-----|---|-----|----|
| | ATC | н | บ | AAT | z | | ATC | н | | TAT | þı | ບ | CAT | Ħ | ט | TTT | ۲ | | ATT | н |
| | GAG | 闰 | U | GGT | Ö | | CAC | Ħ | | TTT | Īτι | | GTG | > | บ | ATT | Н | | GGA | ರ |
| | AAT | Z | ט | GCT | K | | AGA | ĸ | | GAT | А | ט | AGT | Ø | Ö | CAA | Ø | | AAT | z |
| | CAA | Q | Ŋ | GCT | K | Ö | GTT | > | | ACA | H | | CCC | Д | ט | AAT | Z | | AAC | z |
| ט | ATT | Н | | GAC | А | ט | TAT | Ħ | | ACC | Ħ | Ŋ | ATA | н | บ | GAT | А | | ATG | Ħ |
| | GAC | А | | GAG | 闰 | | GTG | > | | CCT | Д | Ö | AAA | × | ט | ACT | Н | | CGC | Ö |
| ט | CTT | н | | GCT | æ | | CAG | Q | | GCC | K | ŭ | CLL | н | ט | TCA | Ø | | CAG | O) |
| | CCT | Д | | ATG | Ħ | Ŋ | GAA | 떮 | | GAA | 闰 | | ACC | H | U | GTC | > | | CCC | æ |
| • | CTA | д | | AAA | K . | Ö | AAA | × | | AAA | × | | GCC | K | | CTA | ц | ט | CGT | pq |
| | GAT | А | | | | | AGG | | | GAG | 闰 | Ŋ | GAT | Д | | TCA | W | | TTC | ĒΨ |
| | TCA | Ø | | TAC | þ | ט | GCA | Æ | ט | TCG | Ø | Ü | GGG | U | | GGC | ש | Ü | CTA | ㅂ |
| | AAA | × | | GAC | А | ט | TTT | Ē | | CGC | ט | Ü | AAA | × | U | AGT | Ø | | TGG | × |
| | AGT | Ø | Ö | CCA | മ | ט | TTT | Ħ | ט | 999 | ט | Ö | AAT | Z | | ממכ | Д | | TAC | Þ |
| | GCA | K | | TAC | Ħ | | TTC | [1 4 | | AGA | R | Ö | AAT | Z | ט | AGT | Ø | | CCC | Д |
| | AAT | Z | บ | TTG | н | | ATG | Ħ | | ACC | Ħ | | AAG | × | Ö | GGT | ರ | | CGG | 民 |
| | ATT | Н | | TGC | บ | | AGC | Ø | | TGG | Z | ប | TTA | ı | Ö | TTT | ĬΞŧ | υ | AAT | Z |
| | 625 | | | 673 | | | 721 | | | 169 | | | 817 | | | 865 | | | 913 | |

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| | (BsaAI) | | | | | | | | | (NheI) | | | | | | (ClaI) | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|---|------|----|---|------|-------------|--------------|--------|-----------------|---|------|---|---|--------|----|--------------|----------------|----------|
| Ö | GGT | ರ | | GAG | 闰 | | TAT | þ | ט | CAA | Q | | TGG | X | ט | TAT | þ | | CCL | рц |
| | CGT GGT | R | บ | ACA | Ħ | Ö | GAA | 闰 | ט | GCT | K | | AAT | Z | | ACC | Ħ | | ATT | н |
| | ACA | E | ט | CTA | ႕ | හ | GAA | 凶 | ט | ACA | H | Ŋ | GAA | 闰 | | GAC | А | _ෆ | GTA | > |
| U | AAT | Z | | CCA | ρι | | ATG | Ħ | | ATC | н | U | CTT | H | | GAG | 闰 | ט | AAT | z |
| | GAC | | | ACC | H | ט | CAT | Ħ | Ŋ | GAA | 闰 | | GTG | > | ひ | TTA | H | | AGC | Ø |
| ט | GGG | Ф | | GGA | ប | | AGA | æ | | GTG | > | Ü | TCT | Ø | ט | ATA | н | ט | GCA | A |
| | GTG | > | | GAT | А | Ü | CAT | Ħ | ט | TCT | Ø | | CCC | Д | | TCG | Ø | | IGI | <u>ت</u> |
| ָט | | | | | | | | | | | | | ATG | × | | TCA | Ø | ט | AAA | × |
| ご | TTA | 니 | | BCC | ¥ | ტ | GTA | > | ט | CTA | Н | Ö | CTT | ы | | ACC | H | U | ACT | H |
| U | TTT | ĮΞŧ | Ü | GTA | Þ | ט | AAT | z | | GAG (| 闰 | | GGA | ט | บ | CCI | ρι | U | GCA | A |
| บ | $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}\mathbf{G}$ | H | ט | AGT | Ø | | TIC | <u>[</u> 24 | _ເ | TTA | H | | | | | CCT | | | | |
| | TTA | н | | | Н | | | × | ט | ATA | Н | | CIG | ᆸ | | CAG | O1 | บ | \mathtt{TCT} | Ø |
| Ü | AAT | z | | ACC | H | ט | TCA | Ø | Ö | TTT | [z ₄ | | CAT | Ħ | | GTG | > | | GAG | 臼 |
| ט | AAT | Z | Ö | CLL | ឯ | | AGC | Ø | | 225 | K | Ü | TCA | Ø | Ö | GGT | Ö | บ | ATA | н |
| | TGG | X | ט | AAT | Z | | GAT | А | | CIA | н | | GTG | > | Ŋ | ATA | н | Ŋ | TAT | × |
| Ŋ | GCA | A | ט | ACT | H | | TAT | þ | | AAG | × | Ö | ACT | H | r | GAA | 臼 | | CGC | R |
| | 196 | | | 1009 | | | 1057 | | | 1105 | | | 1153 | | | 1201 | | | 1249 | |

1A cont'd Figure

AGA AGA R П AGA CGA R U ATA AAA GGA Н Ö K AGA AAC Z H X TTT ACT × TCA Q GCA AAA GAA GAC CCT TAT GCA GGG TTT TTA GAT ATT AGC CAA AAA ACT TCC AGT AAG CCT TIT TIA GCA CAG CAA GGG GCA GGA TGT Д Ц ტ × TTG GAC А 니 AAA GAA AAG CTT TCT Ø . . Д Ø × × 闰 × 1345 1393 1441

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 \leftarrow

Figure

(BamHI)(AccI) AGG GGG GGG R × H O GGA CGA GGT GCA GCA α O Q K Н ATA C C C C C н U H H TAT > R Ø TGG GAT GCC \Box × CCA ACA AGA t, Ø H ρι CCA GGA CGT GCC ACA ATT GGA TCC н Ø GAT AAA ATA \mathbf{IGI} TAC . U × Н × Ŋ GGA AAA ATA CCA AGG H ರ 足 Ω × GTA GCA GGC TCA CTA U <u>ෆ</u> н Ö > GCG ATA TCA AAA AGA GCA GGA GGG U ט Н ญ ĸ CAA ACT GGA X ש Ø H ש CGA GAT TTA AAG GGT TCG н ರ X Д 召 GCA IGC GGA TAC GCA TCA Þ Ø ט ტ A ACC ATC GAA GCC ACA Н H 团 Ø GCA ATG GTA Ø GIG TCC AGG > 足 Ħ 241 49 97

| | | | | | | | (PstI) | | | | | | (Saul) | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|----|---|-----|----|--------|--------|---|---|-----|---|---|--------|---|---|-----|----|---|----------------|----|
| | ACT | H | A | GAG | 闰 | to | CLL | H | บ | ACT | H | ტ | CAA | Q | | ICC | Ø | | ACA | Ħ |
| | GAA | 闰 | ט | CCA | ርፈ | ŭ | 999 | ש | ט | ATT | н | ט | CIG | H | | CAG | ø | υ | GAA | 闰 |
| U | CTT | H | ט | CTA | д | บ | TCA | Ø | ტ | CIC | ᆟ | A | GAG | 闰 | ט | CAT | Ħ | ט | GCA | Æ |
| | ACC | H | | GTG | > | ט | GAT | Ω | | ACC | H | ט | CTT | H | ტ | GTT | > | ט | ATT | Ή |
| | GAC | ·A | ט | ACT | Н | | GCA | Ø | | GAG | 闰 | ט | GTT | > | | GCT | K | | TCC | Ø |
| ტ ე | TTA | д | | GAC | Q | | E C | Д | Ü | ACG | Ħ | Ö | 929 | ¥ | | AAT | | | TCG | Ø |
| | CCL | ρį | | GAG | 臼 | U | GTT | > | | TCC | Ø | | ATA | н | | AGC | Ø | | CAA | O) |
| ט | ATT | | | | þ | | | | | | | | | | | | > | | CTG | H |
| | GGC | ש | | GTG | > | ט | GAT | Ω | | GAC | Д | A | GAG | 曰 | ט | CAA | Q | | CAG | Ø |
| | | | | | O | | | | | | | | | ር | | TGG | * | Ü | CIG | Ы |
| U | GGT | Ö | Η | | Д | | | | | | | | | ប | ט | ACT | H | | CCT | ρι |
| ט י | ATA | Н | ט | CGT | × | Ö | GIC | > | บ | ATA | н | | GAG | 西 | | CCA | Д | | CCC | Ø |
| ICC | AGT | Ø | ט | | | ָ ט | | | | | | | | | | | | | CAC | |
| | CCC | ρι | | GCC | Æ | U | GCA | K | | CIG | ы | | GAG | 闰 | | GAC | Д | | TAC | Ħ |
| | CGC | R | | GGG | Ö | | CCT | Д | | BCC | Æ | U | CTA | н | | CTG | H | U | GCA | ¥ |
| | ACC | H | | CLL | П | | CCC | A | ט | GAT | А | | CIG | П | | CCC | ርተ | | \mathtt{TCT} | Ø |
| | 289 | | • | 337 | | | 385 | | | 433 | | | 481 | | | 529 | | | 577 | |

Figure 1B cont'd

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | |
|---|----------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|--------------|-----|---|---|--------|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|----|---------|----|
| | (AvaI) | | | | | | | | | (BanI) | | | | | | | | | (BsaAI) | |
| ט | ACA | H | | AGC | Ø | | TTC | Ŀ | Ö | TII | ĬΖŧ | | GTG | > | | CCT | Д | | CAT | Ħ |
| | GAT | А | ט | ACA | H | | TGG | Z | | GTG | > | U | GCT | A | U | AAA | × | to | CTA | ч |
| | GGG | U | ט | CGA | ĸ | | AAC | z | | GAA | 闰 | ט | CCA | Д | ט | TAT | ≯ | | CAG | O) |
| | TTA | H | ט | CCA | ርፈ | _ປ | ۲, | ц | | CCT | р | Ŋ | GAA | 闰 | O | GTT | > | ט | CCA | д |
| | GGT | ט | | TCC | Ø | ט | ATT | н | | | | | | A | | CAG | ø | ט | GGA | හ |
| | TCG | Ø. | ָט | 999 | Ö | | GGC | Ö | | GAA | 闰 | U | GAA | 闰 | TCC | AGT | Ø | | GTG | > |
| | <u> </u> | ָט | | TTC | ĬΉ | ט | CGT | æ | ט | ACG | H | บ | TAT | þ | U | CIC | н | | GAG | 闰 |
| | GGA | ひ | | TAC | × | | TCA | | | | А | | CTG | ы | Ü | GGA | ប | | ACA | Ħ |
| | GTA | > | ט | ACA | H | ט | AAA | × | | GTG | > | | | | Ö | GTT | > | ŭ | GGG | ರ |
| | TTT | 阵 | | CTG | ы | ט | TCT | Ø | | CAG | Ot | | AAC | Z | ט | CGT | R | | AGC | Ø |
| | ATT | Н | The control of the con | GAA | ഥ | | CCC | K | ט | ACA | H | บ | GCA | K | Ŋ | GGA | ប | | CGT | R |
| | AAT | Z | U | ATT | Н | Ö | ATT | Н | | TAC | þ | Ŋ | TTT | ĮΖŧ | Ü | AGT | Ø | | ACA | H |
| | GAA | 闰 | | AAC | Z | TCC | | Ø | | TAC | þ | ט | ACA | H | | CCT | Д | U | ACA | H |
| | TTA | н | Ü | GAA | 闰 | | CGC | R | | CGG | R | Ů | CAA | Ø | ט | GGA | ひ | Ŋ | CLL | H |
| | GGT | ָט | Ü | GGA | ט | | CCC | Д | Ö | AAA | × | | TCC | Ø | | AAG | × | Ü | ACA | H |
| | TCT | Ø | ט | GGA | ש | Ö | ACG | H | ט | AGT | Ø | U | TCA | Ø | ט | CLL | н | | GAT | А |
| | 625 | | | 673 | | | 721 | · | | 169 | | | 817 | | | 865 | | | 913 | |

Figure 1B cont'd

1B cont'd

Figure

| | | | | | | | (SacI) | | | , | | | | | | (NheI) | | | | |
|-----|-----|-------|---|------|----|--------|--------|-------------|--------|------|----|--------------|------|-----------------|---|--------|----|---|------|----|
| | CCC | ρı | | CAT | Ħ | | GAG | 闰 | บ | AGT | Ø | | വദദ | æ | | AGC | Ø | | GAC | Д |
| | ATC | Н | ט | TTG | ы | Ü | AGT | Ø | ט | GGT | ט | ט | ACA | H | | GCT | K | Ö | GAT | А |
| H | GCA | Ø | | CCC | Д | Ö | TTT | [14 | Ů | GLL | > | ט | GCA | Ø | ט | TCT | Ø | | ATC | н |
| Ü | GAA | 回 | Ö | GTA | > | | GAT | Д | Ŋ | CCT | Ąį | U | AGT | Ø | | TAC | þı | ט | GLL | > |
| හ | GTA | > | | TIC | ፲ | ט | GAT | А | บ | ACA | Ħ | บ | LLL | ĵъ _i | บ | ACT | Ħ | ט | CTA | 급 |
| | GAT | Д | ŭ | GCA | Æ | บ บ | TTA | 긔 | ט | TCT | Ø | ט | GAA | 闰 | | GAC | Ω | ט | AGT | Ø |
| Ŋ | GAA | 闰 | Ŋ | CII | H | Ö | GAA | 臼 | ט | TCT | Ø | | CGA | Q | ט | CCT | Д | | CCT | |
| | CAT | 出 | ט | GGA | ט | U | ATA | н | | ACC | H | ט | ACT | H | ט | TCA | Ø | | | Ø |
| υ | ATA | Н | | CAG | O) | | GAG | 闰 | | AAC | Z | H | CCA | Д | | GGC | Ö | | | H |
| ט | ACT | EH | ט | AÇA | H | • | GAG | 闰 | | CAG | Ø | ט | ATT | н | ט | TAT | × | | | Ø |
| TCC | AGT | Ø | Ü | AAT | Z | Ü | TTT | Ē4 | Ö | CCT | Д | ŭ | CIC | H | | ACC | H | | | А |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | AGC | | | | | | CCT | |
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| | TAC | Ħ | Ü | GTT | > | ש | CAA | Q | บ บ | AGA | R | บ | CGA | æ | ט | GGT | ט | ŭ | ACT | E+ |
| | AGG | PH PH | Ö | ACA | H | | GAG | 臼 | | CAT | 出 | _ෆ | GTA | > | บ | ACA | EH | ט | GTT | > |
| Ö | GIC | > | | TAC | Ħ | ט | GAA | ध्य | Ö | ACA | H | Ö | GGT | ტ | | CCT | Д | ט | CCA | P4 |
| | 196 | | | 1009 | | | 1057 | | | 1105 | | | 1153 | | | 1201 | | | 1249 | |

| υ | GAT TTG | ч | ტ | AAA | × | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| | GAT | Д | ט | CGA AAA | R | | |
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| | CAC ACA | H | | AGG | R | | |
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| ט | GGG | U | ט | TTG | H | | |
| Ü | GAT (| А | | TCC | Ø | | |
| Ŋ | ATT | н | | CCC | Д | | |
| ט | ATA | Н | | CAT CCC | Ħ | | |
| U | ACT ACT ACA CCA ATC ATT ATA ATT | Н | บ | AGC AGT AAC TAC ACC TTG | H | | |
| | ATC | н | | ACC | H | | TAA |
| Ö | CCA | д | | TAC | Ħ | | CCC |
| U | ACA | H | | AAC | Z | | CAT |
| U | ACT | Ħ | ט | AGT | Ø | ტ | CGG AAA CAT GCC TAA |
| ט | ACT | Ħ | | AGC | Ø | Ü | CGG |
| Ü | ACT | H | | TAC | þ | ש | AAA |
| | 1297 | | | 1345 | | | 1393 |

_ບ U ບ ט IJ

Figure 1B cont'd

Ø Ħ × œ ×

Figure 1C

| | | | | | | | | | | (Ncol) | | | | | | (AvaI) | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-------------|---|-----|----|---|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| | GTG | > | K | GAG | 덦 | | TGC | ບ | Ħ | TTC | [±4 | Ą | CAG | Q | | AGA | R | ზ | GIC | > |
| A | CIC | 니 | ŭ | GGA | ש | A | ATC | Н | A | ACC | Ħ | A | AAG | × | A | GAG | 闰 | | GAA | 团 |
| A | ATT | Н | [+ | AGC | Ø | H | TTC | Ľι | A | ACT | H | | ATG | Z | K | CAG | Ø | K | _ | æ |
| H | CCA | Д | | GIC | > | | AAA | × | ט | GIC | > | | CAT | Ħ | | GTG | > | A A | CGC | ĸ |
| ט | GTC | . > | | TCT | Ø | A | CTG | П | A | CIG | Н | H | | Д | | TAT | þ | A | ACC | H |
| | GIG | > | | TII | Ŀ | Ą | ACC | EH | | ACA | H | H | CCA | Д | ט | GGC | U | Ø | AAG , | Y X T |
| CD | CGC | Ö | | AAA | × | A | CIC | ч | E | CCA | ሲ | [-1 | TAC | × | | GAG | 闰 | | TAC | Ħ |
| A | ACT | E | | CAC | Ħ | A | AAG | × | | TGG | M | | AGA | æ | | CCC | Д | Η | AAC | Z |
| E-I | TTC | Ľ | | 999 | ರ | U | GGA | ט | | CCA | գ | AGT | TCC | Ø | | ATG | M | | SSS | ט |
| | CTG | | | AAT | Z | H | TAC | Ħ | | GTG | > | | LLL | ĬΞι | A | GCC | Ą | H | GAC | Д |
| | GAA | 闰 | | GTG | > | | ACA | H | | CCT | Д | | TGC | Ü | [- | AGC | Ø | | GAT | А |
| A | GAG | 闰 | | GAT | Д | Ø | CCC | K | A | CIC | H | Ą | CAG | Ø | A | AAG | ¥ | | AAA | × |
| Ö | SGC | ტ | U | GGC | ರ | | GAT | Д | A | AAG | × | | GTG | > | H | TIC | Ĕ | H | TTC | Ĕų |
| · A | | × | | GAT | А | r | GGT | ש | ש | GGA | Ф | ט | | ש | | TTT | ĮZ4 | | TTT | Ŀ |
| H | AGC | Ø | ¥ | CTG | 1 | | GAA | 凶 | K | ACT | H | | TAT | þ | [- 4 | GAC | D | Ą | | н |
| | ATG | Ħ | | GAA | 臼 | Ŋ | GGT | | | | | AG | TCT | Ø | | CAT | Ħ | Æ | ACC , | H |
| | Н | | | 49 | | | 97 | | | 145 | | | 193 | | | 241 | | | 289 | |

BamHI GTG CCI CIG AAT GGC Ø O AAG GCC ¥ Ö GAT TCT GGC AGT A Q AAG ATC × 闰 GAC ACC A CAT AAC CCC AGT TCC ACT Z AGA CTG CIC ATG AAC CAC Z 出 z 出 ATC CAG AGA TAC GAC н ы Q R AAC TAC ATC CAT CAA AGA Z ≯ Н O) ACC GGA GTG AAG TAT > & AAC AAG Ö × GAT Z CAT AAT TIC GAC ĬŽ4 Ħ А 闰 GAC CCA GAG CAC AAC a H AAC 网 H Z AAG TCC GTC GCC CTC AGT > 4 CCC X Ø Ø TTC AAC AAG X A CTG CIC Z Н [z_i AAG GAC ATC CAG TAT GTG þ Н 337 385 433 481 529 577 625

Figure 1C cont'

| H | TAC | Þ |
|---|---------|---|
| A | CTG | 1 |
| A | GAG | Þ |
| H | GAC | А |
| | ATG | Z |
| ט | SGC | ප |
| | CAT | Ħ |
| | ACA | E |
| K | ATC | н |
| | GGG | ರ |
| A | GCT | Ø |
| ¥ | GCT | A |
| A | ACC GCT | H |
| | 673 | |
| | | |

cont'd

Figure

Wt BPV1L1 HB BPV1 L1

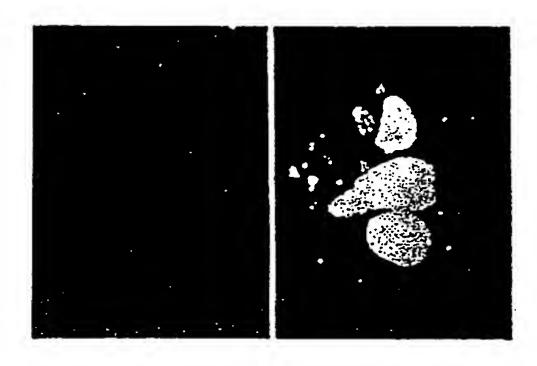


FIG. 2A

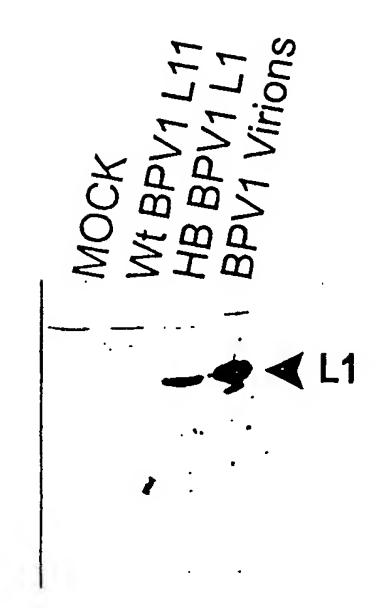


FIG. 2B

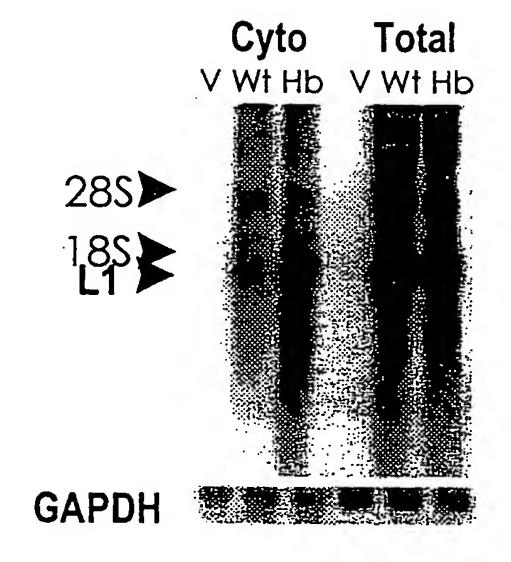


FIG. 2C

Wt BPV1L2 HB BPV1 L2

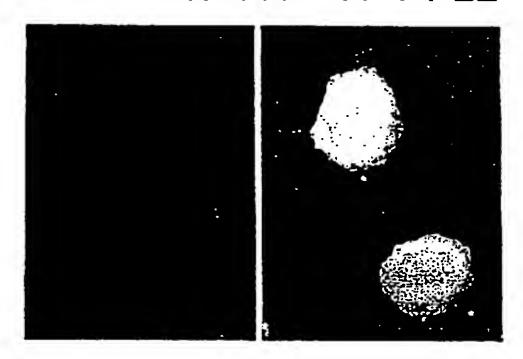


FIG. 3A

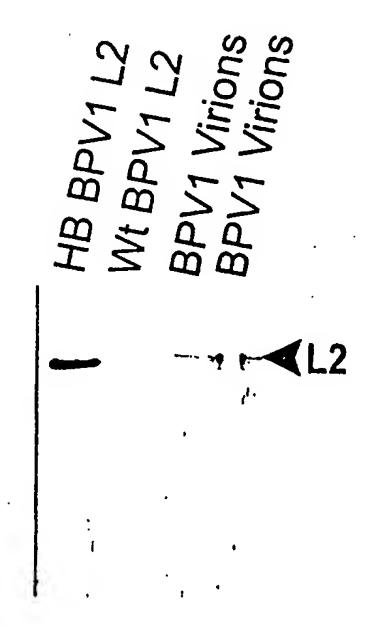


FIG. 3B

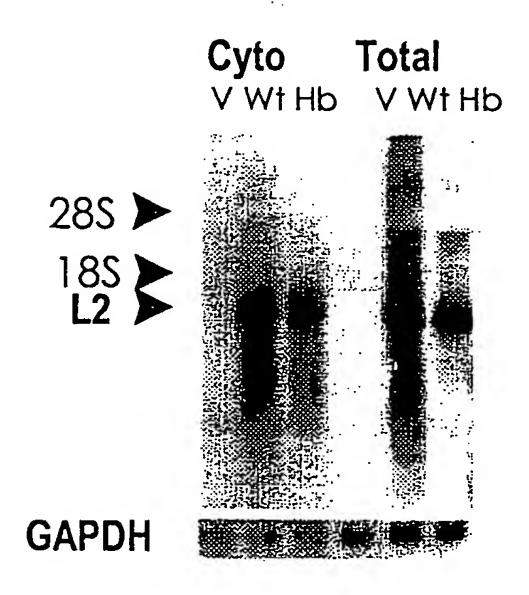


FIG. 3C

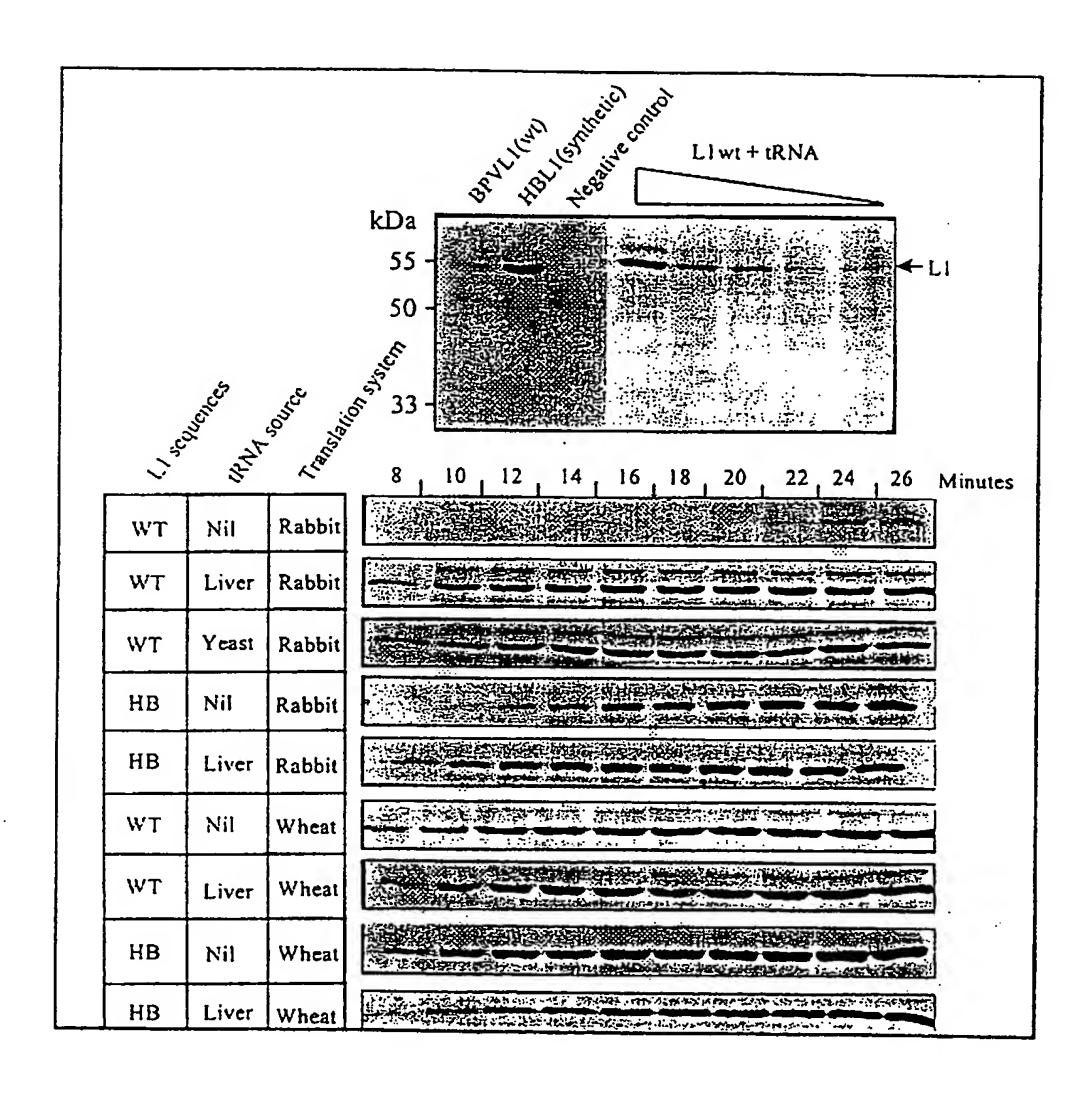
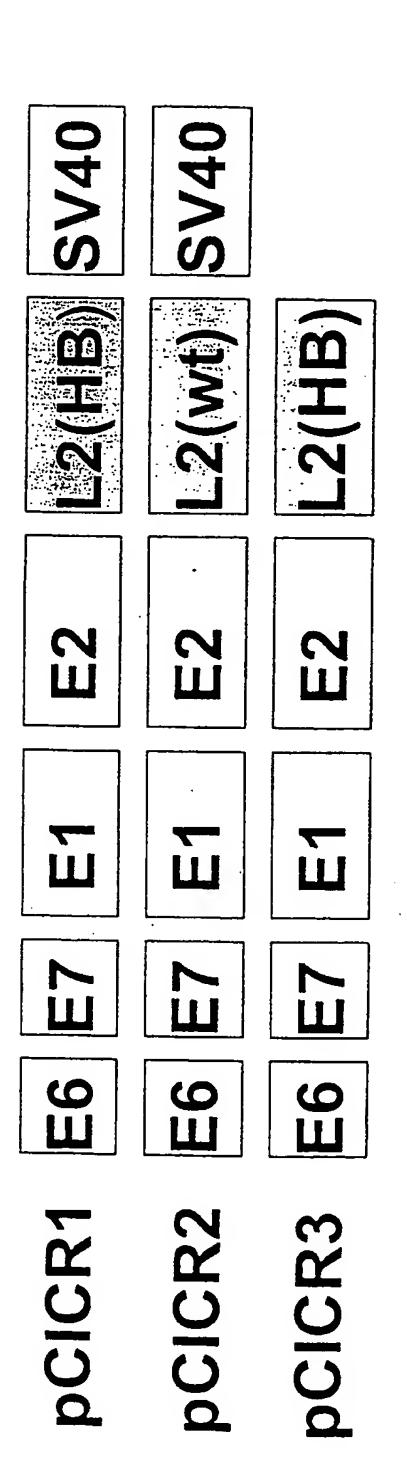


FIG. 4



pcicr3 pcic

FIG. 5B

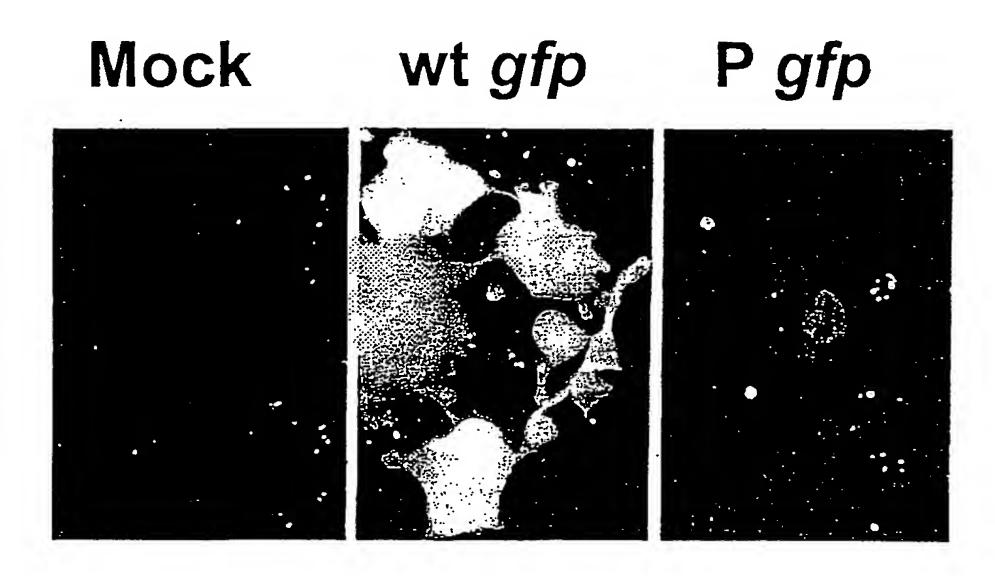
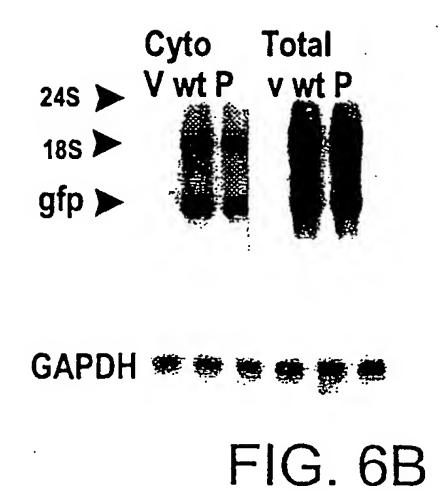


FIG. 6A



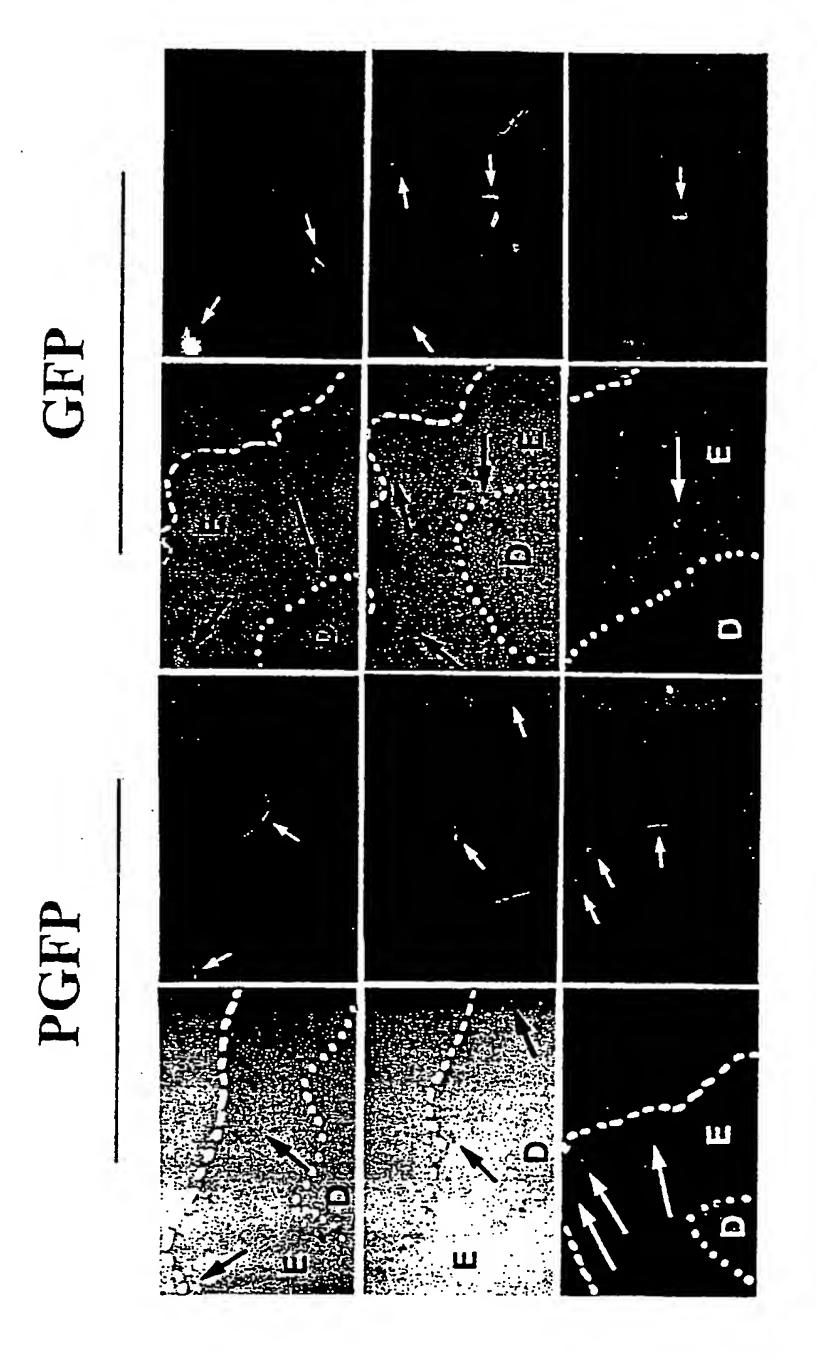


FIG. 7

SEQUENCE LISTING

| <110> The University of Queensland | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCE AND METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY EXPRESSING A PROTEIN IN A TARGET CELL OR TISSUE | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| > Selective Expression | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| > PCT/AU98/00530 > 1998-07-09 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| > PO7765 > 1997-07-09 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| > P09467 > 1997-09-11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| > 34 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <170> PatentIn Ver. 2.0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <210> 1 <211> 1488 <212> DNA <213> Bovine papillomavirus type 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <220> <221> CDS <222> (1)(1488) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <220> <223> L1 open reading frame (wild-type) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <400> 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| atg gcg ttg tgg caa caa ggc cag aag ctg tat ctc cct cca acc cct 48 Met Ala Leu Trp Gln Gln Gly Gln Lys Leu Tyr Leu Pro Pro Thr Pro 1 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| gta agc aag gtg ctt tgc agt gaa acc tat gtg caa aga aaa agc att 96 Val Ser Lys Val Leu Cys Ser Glu Thr Tyr Val Gln Arg Lys Ser Ile 20 25 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ttt tat cat gca gaa acg gag cgc ctg cta act ata gga cat cca tat Phe Tyr His Ala Glu Thr Glu Arg Leu Leu Thr Ile Gly His Pro Tyr 35 40 45 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| tac cca gtg tct atc ggg gcc aaa act gtt cct aag gtc tct gca aat 192 Tyr Pro Val Ser Ile Gly Ala Lys Thr Val Pro Lys Val Ser Ala Asn 50 55 60 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| cag tat agg gta ttt aaa ata caa cta cct gat ccc aat caa ttt gca 240 Gln Tyr Arg Val Phe Lys Ile Gln Leu Pro Asp Pro Asn Gln Phe Ala 65 70 75 80 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| cta Leu | cct Pro | gac Asp | agg Arg | act Thr 85 | gtt Val | cac | aac Asn | cca Pro | agt Ser 90 | aaa Lys | gag Glu | cgg Arg | ctg Leu | gtg Val 95 | tgg Trp | 288 |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----|
| cca Pro | gtc Val | ata Ile | ggt Gly 100 | gtg Val | cag Gln | gtg Val | tcc Ser | aga Arg 105 | ggg Gly | cag Gln | cct Pro | ctt Leu | gga Gly 110 | ggt Gly | act Thr | 336 |
| gta Val | act Thr | 999 Gly 115 | cac | ccc Pro | act Thr | ttt Phe | aat Asn 120 | gct Ala | ttg Leu | ctt Leu | gat Asp | gca Ala 125 | gaa Glu | aat Asn | gtg Val | 384 |
| aat Asn | aga Arg 130 | aaa Lys | gtc Val | acc Thr | acc Thr | caa Gln 135 | aca Thr | aca Thr | gat Asp | gac Asp | agg Arg 140 | aaa Lys | caa Gln | aca Thr | Gly | 432 |
| cta Leu 145 | gat Asp | gct Ala | aag Lys | caa Gln | caa Gln 150 | cag Gln | att Ile | ctg Leu | ttg Leu | cta Leu 155 | ggc | tgt Cys | acc Thr | cct | gct Ala 160 | 480 |
| | | | | | | aca Thr | | | | | | | | | cta Leu | 528 |
| | | | | | | cct Pro | | | | | | Lys | | | gaa Glu | 576 |
| | | | | | | att Ile | | | | | | | | | gaa Glu | 624 |
| | | | | | | gat Asp 215 | | | | | | | | | atc Ile | 672 |
| | | | | | | ctc Leu | | | | | | | | | | 720 |
| agc Ser | atg Met | ttc Phe | ttt Phe | ttt Phe 245 | gca Ala | agg Arg | aaa Lys | gaa Glu | cag Gln 250 | gtg Val | tat Tyr | gtt Val | aga Arg | cac His 255 | atc Ile | 768 |
| | | | | | | gag Glu | | | | | | | | | | 816 |
| | | | | | | gat Asp | | | | | | | | | | 864 |
| | | | | | | tca Ser 295 | | | | | | | | | | 912 |

| aat cgg ccc t Asn Arg Pro 1 | | - | | — — | |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| gca tgg aat a Ala Trp Asn A | | | | - | |
| act aat ctt a Thr Asn Leu I 3 | - | - | | | |
| tat gat agc t Tyr Asp Ser S 355 | | | His Arg His ! | | |
| aag cta gcc t Lys Leu Ala P 370 | | - | | | |
| act gtg tca c Thr Val Ser H 385 | - | - | | _ | |
| gaa ata ggt g Glu Ile Gly V | | | | | |
| cgc tat ata g Arg Tyr Ile G 4 | | | | | |
| gca aaa gaa g Ala Lys Glu A 435 | | | Lys Phe Trp | | |
| aaa gaa aag c Lys Glu Lys L 450 | | | | | _ |
| ttt tta gca c Phe Leu Ala G 465 | | - | | _ | _ |
| att agc caa a Ile Ser Gln L | | | - | | taa 1488 |
| <210> 2 <211> 495 <212> PRT <213> Bovine | papillomav | irus type 1 | | | |
| <400> 2 Met Ala Leu T 1 | Trp Gln Gln 5 | Gly Gln Lys | Leu Tyr Leu 1 | Pro Pro Thr 15 | Pro |

Val Ser Lys Val Leu Cys Ser Glu Thr Tyr Val Gln Arg Lys Ser Ile Phe Tyr His Ala Glu Thr Glu Arg Leu Leu Thr Ile Gly His Pro Tyr Tyr Pro Val Ser Ile Gly Ala Lys Thr Val Pro Lys Val Ser Ala Asn Gln Tyr Arg Val Phe Lys Ile Gln Leu Pro Asp Pro Asn Gln Phe Ala Leu Pro Asp Arg Thr Val His Asn Pro Ser Lys Glu Arg Leu Val Trp Pro Val Ile Gly Val Gln Val Ser Arg Gly Gln Pro Leu Gly Gly Thr Val Thr Gly His Pro Thr Phe Asn Ala Leu Leu Asp Ala Glu Asn Val Asn Arg Lys Val Thr Thr Gln Thr Thr Asp Asp Arg Lys Gln Thr Gly Leu Asp Ala Lys Gln Gln Gln Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Cys Thr Pro Ala Glu Gly Glu Tyr Trp Thr Thr Ala Arg Pro Cys Val Thr Asp Arg Leu Glu Asn Gly Ala Cys Pro Pro Leu Glu Leu Lys Asn Lys His Ile Glu Asp Gly Asp Met Met Glu Ile Gly Phe Gly Ala Ala Asn Phe Lys Glu Ile Asn Ala Ser Lys Ser Asp Leu Pro Leu Asp Ile Gln Asn Glu Ile Cys Leu Tyr Pro Asp Tyr Leu Lys Met Ala Glu Asp Ala Ala Gly Asn Ser Met Phe Phe Ala Arg Lys Glu Gln Val Tyr Val Arg His Ile Trp Thr Arg Gly Gly Ser Glu Lys Glu Ala Pro Thr Thr Asp Phe Tyr Leu Lys Asn Asn Lys Gly Asp Ala Thr Leu Lys Ile Pro Ser Val His Phe Gly Ser Pro Ser Gly Ser Leu Val Ser Thr Asp Asn Gln Ile Phe

Asn Arg Pro Tyr Trp Leu Phe Arg Ala Gln Gly Met Asn Asn Gly Ile

WO 99/02694 PCT/AU98/00530

Ala Trp Asn Asn Leu Leu Phe Leu Thr Val Gly Asp Asn Thr Arg Gly 325 330 335 Thr Asn Leu Thr Ile Ser Val Ala Ser Asp Gly Thr Pro Leu Thr Glu 340 350 345 Tyr Asp Ser Ser Lys Phe Asn Val Tyr His Arg His Met Glu Glu Tyr 355 360 365 Lys Leu Ala Phe Ile Leu Glu Leu Cys Ser Val Glu Ile Thr Ala Gln 370 375 380 Thr Val Ser His Leu Gln Gly Leu Met Pro Ser Val Leu Glu Asn Trp 390 395 400 385 Glu Ile Gly Val Gln Pro Pro Thr Ser Ser Ile Leu Glu Asp Thr Tyr 405 410 415 Arg Tyr Ile Glu Ser Pro Ala Thr Lys Cys Ala Ser Asn Val Ile Pro 420 425 430 Ala Lys Glu Asp Pro Tyr Ala Gly Phe Lys Phe Trp Asn Ile Asp Leu 435 440 445 Lys Glu Lys Leu Ser Leu Asp Leu Asp Gln Phe Pro Leu Gly Arg Arg 450 455 460 Phe Leu Ala Gln Gln Gly Ala Gly Cys Ser Thr Val Arg Lys Arg Arg 480 465 470 475 Ile Ser Gln Lys Thr Ser Ser Lys Pro Ala Lys Lys Lys Lys 485 490 495 <210> 3 <211> 1488 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <220> <221> CDS <222> (1)..(1488) <220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Bovine papillomavirus type 1 L1 open reading frame (humanized) <220> <223> Wild-type codons replaced with synonymous codons used at relatively high frequency by human genes <400> 3 atg gcc ctg tgg cag cag ggc cag aag ctg tac ctg ccc cct acc ccc 48 Met Ala Leu Trp Gln Gln Gly Gln Lys Leu Tyr Leu Pro Pro Thr Pro 1 10 15

| gtg Val | agc Ser | aag Lys | gtg Val 20 | ctt Leu | tgc Cys | agt Ser | gaa Glu | acc Thr 25 | tat Tyr | gtg Val | caa Gln | aga Arg | aaa Lys 30 | agc Ser | att Ile | 96 |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----|
| ttt Phe | tat Tyr | cat His 35 | gca Ala | gaa Glu | acg Thr | gag Glu | cgc Arg 40 | ctg Leu | ctg Leu | acc | atc Ile | gga Gly 45 | cac | ccc | tat Tyr | 144 |
| tac Tyr | ccc Pro 50 | gtg Val | tcc Ser | atc Ile | gly ggg | gcc Ala 55 | aag Lys | act Thr | gtg Val | cct Pro | aag Lys 60 | gtg Val | tcc Ser | gcc Ala | aat Asn | 192 |
| cag Gln 65 | tat Tyr | agg Arg | gtg Val | ttc Phe | aaa Lys 70 | atc Ile | caa Gln | ctg Leu | cct | gat Asp 75 | ccc | aat Asn | caa Gln | ttt Phe | gca Ala 80 | 240 |
| ctg Leu | cct Pro | gac Asp | agg Arg | acc Thr 85 | gtg Val | cac His | aac Asn | ccc Pro | agc Ser 90 | aaa Lys | gag Glu | cgg Arg | ctg Leu | gtg Val 95 | tgg Trp | 288 |
| cca Pro | gtg Val | atc Ile | ggc Gly 100 | gtg Val | cag Gln | gtg Val | tcc Ser | aga Arg 105 | ggc Gly | cag Gln | cct Pro | ctg Leu | ggc Gly 110 | ggc Gly | acc Thr | 336 |
| gtg Val | act Thr | 999 Gly 115 | cac His | ccc | act | ttt Phe | aat Asn 120 | gct Ala | ttg Leu | ctt Leu | gat Asp | gca Ala 125 | gaa Glu | aat Asn | gtg Val | 384 |
| aat Asn | aga Arg 130 | aaa Lys | gtc Val | acc Thr | acc Thr | cag Gln 135 | acc Thr | acc Thr | gac Asp | gac Asp | agg Arg 140 | aaa Lys | cag Gln | aca Thr | ggc Gly | 432 |
| ctg Leu 145 | gat Asp | gcc Ala | aag Lys | cag Gln | cag Gln 150 | cag Gln | atc Ile | ctg Leu | ctg Leu | ctg Leu 155 | ggc | tgt Cys | acc Thr | cct Pro | gct Ala 160 | 480 |
| gaa Glu | GJÀ 333 | gaa Glu | tat Tyr | tgg Trp 165 | aca Thr | aca Thr | gcc Ala | cgt Arg | cca Pro 170 | tgt Cys | gtg Val | acc Thr | gac Asp | cgt Arg 175 | cta Leu | 528 |
| gaa Glu | aac Asn | ggc | gcc Ala 180 | tgc Cys | cct Pro | cct Pro | ctg Leu | gag Glu 185 | ctg Leu | aaa Lys | aac Asn | aag Lys | cac His 190 | atc Ile | gaa Glu | 576 |
| gat Asp | Gly aaa | gat Asp 195 | atg Met | atg Met | gaa Glu | att Ile | 999 Gly 200 | ttt Phe | ggt Gly | gca Ala | gcc Ala | aac Asn 205 | ttc Phe | aaa Lys | gaa Glu | 624 |
| att Ile | aat Asn 210 | gca Ala | agt Ser | aaa Lys | tca Ser | gat Asp 215 | cta Leu | cct Pro | ctg Leu | gac Asp | atc Ile 220 | caa Gln | aat Asn | gag Glu | atc Ile | 672 |
| tgc Cys 225 | ctg Leu | tac Tyr | ccc Pro | gac Asp | tac Tyr 230 | ctg Leu | aaa Lys | atg Met | gct Ala | gag Glu 235 | gac Asp | gcc Ala | gcc Ala | ggc | aac Asn 240 | 720 |

| _ | | | | ttc Phe 245 | | | | | | | | | | | atc Ile | 768 |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|------|
| | | | | ggc Gly | | | | - | - | | | | _ | | | 816 |
| | | | | aag Lys | | | _ | | | | | | | | cac His | 864 |
| | | | | agc Ser | | | | | | | _ | | | | ttc Phe | 912 |
| | | | | tgg Trp | = | | | _ | · | | - | | | | | 960 |
| | | | | ctg Leu 325 | | | | | | | | | | | ggc | 1008 |
| | | | | atc Ile | | | | | | | | | | | gag Glu | 1056 |
| | _ | _ | _ | aaa Lys | _ | | | | _ | _ | | _ | | | | 1104 |
| | | | | atc Ile | | | | | | | | | | | cag Gln | 1152 |
| | | | | ctg Leu | | | | | | | | | | | | 1200 |
| _ | _ | _ | _ | cag Gln 405 | | | _ | | | | _ | | _ | | tac Tyr | 1248 |
| | | | | tcc Ser | | | | | | | _ | | | | | 1296 |
| | | | | cct Pro | | | | | | | | | | | ctg Leu | 1344 |
| aag Lys | qaq | aag | ctg | tct | ctq | gac | ctg | gat | caq | ttc | ccc | tta | aac | aga | aga | 1392 |

ttt ctg gcc cag cag ggg gcc ggc tgt tcc acc gtg aga aaa cgc agg 1440
Phe Leu Ala Gln Gln Gly Ala Gly Cys Ser Thr Val Arg Lys Arg Arg
465

atc agc cag aag acc tcc agc aag ccc gcc aag aag aag aaa aag taa 1488
Ile Ser Gln Lys Thr Ser Ser Lys Pro Ala Lys Lys Lys Lys Lys
485

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Val Ser Lys Val Leu Cys Ser Glu Thr Tyr Val Gln Arg Lys Ser Ile 20 25 30

Phe Tyr His Ala Glu Thr Glu Arg Leu Leu Thr Ile Gly His Pro Tyr 35 40 45

Tyr Pro Val Ser Ile Gly Ala Lys Thr Val Pro Lys Val Ser Ala Asn 50 60

Gln Tyr Arg Val Phe Lys Ile Gln Leu Pro Asp Pro Asn Gln Phe Ala 65 70 75 80

Leu Pro Asp Arg Thr Val His Asn Pro Ser Lys Glu Arg Leu Val Trp
85 90 95

Pro Val Ile Gly Val Gln Val Ser Arg Gly Gln Pro Leu Gly Gly Thr
100 105 110

Val Thr Gly His Pro Thr Phe Asn Ala Leu Leu Asp Ala Glu Asn Val 115 120 125

Asn Arg Lys Val Thr Thr Gln Thr Thr Asp Asp Arg Lys Gln Thr Gly 130 135 140

Leu Asp Ala Lys Gln Gln Gln Ile Leu Leu Leu Gly Cys Thr Pro Ala 145 150 155 160

Glu Gly Glu Tyr Trp Thr Thr Ala Arg Pro Cys Val Thr Asp Arg Leu 165 170 175

Glu Asn Gly Ala Cys Pro Pro Leu Glu Leu Lys Asn Lys His Ile Glu 180 185 190

Asp Gly Asp Met Met Glu Ile Gly Phe Gly Ala Ala Asn Phe Lys Glu 195 200 205

Ile Asn Ala Ser Lys Ser Asp Leu Pro Leu Asp Ile Gln Asn Glu Ile 210 215 220

Cys Leu Tyr Pro Asp Tyr Leu Lys Met Ala Glu Asp Ala Ala Gly Asn Ser Met Phe Phe Phe Ala Arg Lys Glu Gln Val Tyr Val Arg His Ile Trp Thr Arg Gly Gly Ser Glu Lys Glu Ala Pro Thr Thr Asp Phe Tyr Leu Lys Asn Asn Lys Gly Asp Ala Thr Leu Lys Ile Pro Ser Val His Phe Gly Ser Pro Ser Gly Ser Leu Val Ser Thr Asp Asn Gln Ile Phe Asn Arg Pro Tyr Trp Leu Phe Arg Ala Gln Gly Met Asn Asn Gly Ile Ala Trp Asn Asn Leu Leu Phe Leu Thr Val Gly Asp Asn Thr Arg Gly Thr Asn Leu Thr Ile Ser Val Ala Ser Asp Gly Thr Pro Leu Thr Glu Tyr Asp Ser Ser Lys Phe Asn Val Tyr His Arg His Met Glu Glu Tyr Lys Leu Ala Phe Ile Leu Glu Leu Cys Ser Val Glu Ile Thr Ala Gln Thr Val Ser His Leu Gln Gly Leu Met Pro Ser Val Leu Glu Asn Trp Glu Ile Gly Val Gln Pro Pro Thr Ser Ser Ile Leu Glu Asp Thr Tyr Arg Tyr Ile Glu Ser Pro Ala Thr Lys Cys Ala Ser Asn Val Ile Pro Ala Lys Glu Asp Pro Tyr Ala Gly Phe Lys Phe Trp Asn Ile Asp Leu Lys Glu Lys Leu Ser Leu Asp Leu Asp Gln Phe Pro Leu Gly Arg Arg Phe Leu Ala Gln Gln Gly Ala Gly Cys Ser Thr Val Arg Lys Arg Arg Ile Ser Gln Lys Thr Ser Ser Lys Pro Ala Lys Lys Lys Lys

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WO 99/02694

<212> DNA

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| | L> CI | os L) | (141) | o) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------|----------|-------|------|-------------------|------|------|-------|------|--------------|-------------|---|---|---|------------------|-----|
| <220 <223 | | 2 ope | en re | eadi | ng fi | came | (wil | ld-ty | /pe) | | | | | | | |
| atg | | | | | aga Arg | | | | | | | | | | | 48 |
| | _ | | | _ | gcg Ala | | _ | _ | | | _ | | _ | | _ | 96 |
| _ | | | | | ata Ile | | | | | _ | | | | | | 144 |
| | | | | | Gly | | | | | | | | | | agg Arg | 192 |
| | | | | | tca Ser 70 | | | | | | | | | | 80 Gly aaa | 240 |
| | | | | | gca Ala | | | | | | | | | | Gly ggg | 288 |
| | | | | | ggt Gly | | • | | | | | | | _ | | 336 |
| | | _ | | | cca Pro | | | | _ | _ | | | | | gag Glu | 384 |
| | | | | | act Thr | | | | | | | | | | ctt Leu | 432 |
| | | | | | ggt Gly 150 | | | | | | | | | | | 480 |
| | | | | | ggt Gly | | | | | | | | | | caa Gln | 528 |
| | | | | | act Thr | | | | | | | _ | | | | 576 |

| _ | | cct Pro | | | | | | _ | _ | aca Thr | 624 |
|--------------|--|-------------------|--|---|-------------|---|-----|---|---|------------|------|
| | | att Ile | | | | | | | | aca Thr | 672 |
| | | gaa Glu 230 | | | | | | | | | 720 |
| | | gcc Ala | | | | | | | | | 768 |
| | | aca Thr | | | | _ | | | _ | | 816 |
| | | gca Ala | | | | | _ | | _ | | 864 |
| | | gga Gly | | | _ | _ | _ | | | | 912 |
| | | cgt Arg 310 | | | Val | | Pro | | | | 960 |
| | | agt Ser | | _ | | _ | _ | _ | | | 1008 |
| | | aat Asn | | | | | | | _ | | 1056 |
| | | ttt Phe | | | | | | | | gag Glu | 1104 |
| | | cct Pro | | | | | | _ | | agt Ser | 1152 |
| | | ctc Leu 390 | | | | | | | | | 1200 |
| | | acc Thr | | | | | | | | agc Ser | 1248 |

| cca gtt ac Pro Val Th | | | | Pro Ser | | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| act act ac Thr Thr Th 43 | r Thr Pro | | | | | Val Asp | |
| tac agc ag Tyr Ser Se 450 | | | His Pro | | | | |
| aaa cgg aa Lys Arg Ly 465 | | | | | | | 1410 |
| <210> 6 <211> 469 <212> PRT <213> Bovi | ne papill | omavirus | type 1 | | | | |
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| Arg Thr Cy | s Lys Gln 20 | Ala Gly | Thr Cys 25 | Pro Pro | Asp Val | Ile Arg 30 | Lys |
| Val Glu Gl | | Ile Ala | Asp Lys 40 | Ile Leu | Lys Phe 45 | Gly Gly | Leu |
| Ala Ile Ty 50 | r Leu Gly | Gly Leu 55 | Gly Ile | Gly Thr | Trp Ser | Thr Gly | Arg |
| Val Ala Al 65 | a Gly Gly | Ser Pro 70 | Arg Tyr | Thr Pro | Leu Arg | Thr Ala | Gly 80 |
| Ser Thr Se | r Ser Leu 85 | | Ile Gly | Ser Arg 90 | Ala Val | Thr Ala 95 | Gly. |
| Thr Arg Pr | o Ser Ile 100 | Gly Ala | Gly Ile 105 | Pro Leu | Asp Thr | Leu Glu 110 | Thr |
| Leu Gly Al 11 | | Pro Gly | Val Tyr 120 | Glu Asp | Thr Val | Leu Pro | Glu |
| Ala Pro Al 130 | a Ile Val | Thr Pro | Asp Ala | Val Pro | Ala Asp 140 | Ser Gly | Leu |
| Asp Ala Le | u Ser Ile | Gly Thr 150 | Asp Ser | Ser Thr 155 | Glu Thr | Leu Ile | Thr 160 |
| Leu Leu Gl | u Pro Glu 165 | | Glu Asp | Ile Ala 170 | Val Leu | Glu Leu 175 | Gln |

WO 99/02694 PCT/AU98/00530

Pro Leu Asp Arg Pro Thr Trp Gln Val Ser Asn Ala Val His Gln Ser

Ser Ala Tyr His Ala Pro Leu Gln Leu Gln Ser Ser Ile Ala Glu Thr

Ser Gly Leu Glu Asn Ile Phe Val Gly Gly Ser Gly Leu Gly Asp Thr

Gly Gly Glu Asn Ile Glu Leu Thr Tyr Phe Gly Ser Pro Arg Thr Ser

Thr Pro Arg Ser Ile Ala Ser Lys Ser Arg Gly Ile Leu Asn Trp Phe

Ser Lys Arg Tyr Tyr Thr Gln Val Pro Thr Glu Asp Pro Glu Val Phe

Ser Ser Gln Thr Phe Ala Asn Pro Leu Tyr Glu Ala Glu Pro Ala Val

Leu Lys Gly Pro Ser Gly Arg Val Gly Leu Ser Gln Val Tyr Lys Pro

Asp Thr Leu Thr Thr Arg Ser Gly Thr Glu Val Gly Pro Gln Leu His

Val Arg Tyr Ser Leu Ser Thr Ile His Glu Asp Val Glu Ala Ile Pro

Tyr Thr Val Asp Glu Asn Thr Gln Gly Leu Ala Phe Val Pro Leu His

Glu Glu Gln Ala Gly Phe Glu Glu Ile Glu Leu Asp Asp Phe Ser Glu

Thr His Arg Leu Leu Pro Gln Asn Thr Ser Ser Thr Pro Val Gly Ser

Gly Val Arg Arg Ser Leu Ile Pro Thr Arg Glu Phe Ser Ala Thr Arg

Pro Thr Gly Val Val Thr Tyr Gly Ser Pro Asp Thr Tyr Ser Ala Ser

Pro Val Thr Asp Pro Asp Ser Thr Ser Pro Ser Leu Val Ile Asp Asp

Thr Thr Thr Pro Ile Ile Ile Asp Gly His Thr Val Asp Leu

Tyr Ser Ser Asn Tyr Thr Leu His Pro Ser Leu Leu Arg Lys Arg Lys

Lys Arg Lys His Ala

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<220>
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      used at relatively high frequency by human genes
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                                                                    48
Met Ser Ala Arg Lys Arg Val Lys Arg Ala Ser Ala Tyr Asp Leu Tyr
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                                      10
                                                          15
agg acc tgc aag cag gcc ggc aca tgt cca cca gat gtg atc cga aag
                                                                    96
Arg Thr Cys Lys Gln Ala Gly Thr Cys Pro Pro Asp Val Ile Arg Lys
             20
                                  25
                                                      30
gtg gag ggc gac acc atc gcc gac aag atc ctg aag ttc ggc ggc ctg
                                                                    144
Val Glu Gly Asp Thr Ile Ala Asp Lys Ile Leu Lys Phe Gly Gly Leu
         35
                              40
                                                  45
gcc atc tac ctg ggc ggc ctg ggc atc gga aca tgg tct acc ggc agg
Ala Ile Tyr Leu Gly Gly Leu Gly Ile Gly Thr Trp Ser Thr Gly Arg
     50
                          55
gtg gcc gcc ggc ggc tca cca agg tac acc cca ctg cgc acc gcc ggc
                                                                   240
Val Ala Ala Gly Gly Ser Pro Arg Tyr Thr Pro Leu Arg Thr Ala Gly
 65
                     70
                                          75
                                                              80
tcc acc tcc tcc ctg gcc tcc atc gga tcc aga gcc gtg acc gcc ggg
                                                                    288
Ser Thr Ser Ser Leu Ala Ser Ile Gly Ser Arg Ala Val Thr Ala Gly
                 85
                                      90
                                                          95
acc ege eec tee ate gge geg gge ate eet etg gae acc etg gaa act
                                                                   336
Thr Arg Pro Ser Ile Gly Ala Gly Ile Pro Leu Asp Thr Leu Glu Thr
            100
                                 105
                                                     110
ctt ggg gcc ctg cgc cct ggc gtg tac gag gac acc gtg ctg ccc gaa
                                                                   384
Leu Gly Ala Leu Arg Pro Gly Val Tyr Glu Asp Thr Val Leu Pro Glu
        115
                             120
                                                 125
gcc cct gcc atc gtg acc cct gac gcc gtg cct gca gac tcc ggc ctg
                                                                   432
Ala Pro Ala Ile Val Thr Pro Asp Ala Val Pro Ala Asp Ser Gly Leu
    130
                        135
                                             140
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| _ | | ctg Leu | | | | | | | | | | | | | acc Thr 160 | 480 |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|-----|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----|-------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|------|
| | - | gag Glu | | | | | | | | | | | | | cag Gln | 528 |
| | | gac Asp | | | | | - | | | | | | | _ | | 576 |
| | _ | tac Tyr 195 | | <u> </u> | | | - | - | | | | | _ | | | 624 |
| | | tta Leu | | | | | | | | | | | | _ | | 672 |
| | | gag Glu | | | | _ | | | | | | | - | | agc Ser 240 | 720 |
| | | cgc | | | _ | | | | _ | | _ | | | | ttc Phe | 768 |
| _ | _ | cgg Arg | | | | | | | | | | | _ | | ttc Phe | 816 |
| | | cag Gln 275 | | | | | | | | | | _ | | _ | gtg Val | 864 |
| | _ | ggc | | | | | | | _ _ | | | • | | | | 912 |
| _ | | ctg Leu | | | Arg | | | | | Val | | | | | | 960 |
| | | | | | 310 | | | | | 315 | | | | | 320 | |
| | | tac Tyr | | _ | tcc | | | | | gat | | | _ | | ccc | 1008 |
| Val | Arg | | Ser gat | Leu 325 gag | tcc Ser | Thr | <pre>Ile cag</pre> | His | Glu 330 ctg | gat Asp gcc | Val | Glu | Ala | Ile 335 ctg | ccc Pro | 1008 |

| acc cat cgc Thr His Arg 370 | ctg ctg Leu Leu | ccc | cag Gln 375 | aac Asn | acc Thr | tcc Ser | tcc Ser | acc Thr 380 | ccc Pro | gtg Val | ggc | agc Ser | 1152 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------|
| ggc gtg cgc Gly Val Arg 385 | aga agc Arg Ser | ctg Leu 390 | atc Ile | cct Pro | acc Thr | cga Arg | gag Glu 395 | ttc Phe | agc Ser | gcc Ala | acc Thr | cgg Arg 400 | 1200 |
| cct acc ggc Pro Thr Gly | | Thr | | | | | | | | | | | 1248 |
| ccc gtg acc Pro Val Thr | gac cct Asp Pro 420 | gat Asp | tct Ser | acc Thr | tct Ser 425 | cct Pro | agc Ser | ctg Leu | gtg Val | atc Ile 430 | gac Asp | gac Asp | 1296 |
| acc acc acc Thr Thr Thr 435 | acc ccc Thr Pro | atc Ile | atc Ile | atc Ile 440 | atc Ile | gac Asp | ggc | cac His | aca Thr 445 | gtg Val | gat Asp | ctg Leu | 1344 |
| tac agc agc Tyr Ser Ser 450 | aac tac Asn Tyr | Thr | ctg Leu 455 | cat His | ccc Pro | tcc Ser | ctg Leu | ctg Leu 460 | agg Arg | aag Lys | cgc Arg | aag Lys | 1392 |
| aag cgc aag Lys Arg Lys | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1410 |
| 465 | | 470 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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xvii

| Leu | Gly | Ala 115 | Leu | Arg | Pro | Gly | Val 120 | Tyr | Glu | Asp | Thr | Val 125 | Leu | Pro | Glu |
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| Pro | Leu | Asp | Arg 180 | Pro | Thr | Trp | Gln | Val 185 | Ser | Asn | Ala | Val | His 190 | Gln | Ser |
| Ser | Ala | Tyr 195 | His | Ala | Pro | Leu | Gln 200 | Leu | Gln | Ser | Ser | Ile 205 | Ala | Glu | Thr |
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| Thr | Pro | Arg | Ser | Ile 245 | Ala | Ser | Lys | Ser | Arg 250 | Gly | Ile | Leu | Asn | Trp 255 | Phe |
| Ser | Lys | Arg | Tyr 260 | Tyr | Thr | Gln | Val | Pro 265 | Thr | Glu | Asp | Pro | Glu 270 | Val | Phe |
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| Leu | Lys 290 | Gly | Pro | Ser | Gly | Arg 295 | Val | Gly | Leu | Ser | Gln 300 | Val | Tyr | Lys | Pro |
| Asp 305 | Thr | Leu | Thr | Thr | Arg 310 | Ser | Gly | Thr | Glu | Val 315 | Gly | Pro | Gln | Leu | His 320 |
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| Tyr | Thr | Val | Asp 340 | Glu | Asn | Thr | Gln | Gly 345 | Leu | Ala | Phe | Val | Pro 350 | Leu | His |
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| Thr | His 370 | Arg | Leu | Leu | Pro | Gln 375 | Asn | Thr | Ser | Ser | Thr 380 | Pro | Val | Gly | Ser |
| Gly 385 | Val | Arg | Arg | Ser | Leu 390 | Ile | Pro | Thr | Arg | Glu 395 | Phe | Ser | Ala | Thr | Arg 400 |
| Pro | Thr | Gly | Val | Val 405 | Thr | Tyr | Gly | Ser | Pro 410 | Asp | Thr | Tyr | Ser | Ala 415 | Ser |

Pro Val Thr Asp Pro Asp Ser Thr Ser Pro Ser Leu Val Ile Asp Asp 420 425 430 Thr Thr Thr Pro Ile Ile Ile Asp Gly His Thr Val Asp Leu 435 440 445 Tyr Ser Ser Asn Tyr Thr Leu His Pro Ser Leu Leu Arg Lys Arg Lys 450 455 460 Lys Arg Lys His Ala 465 <210> 9 <211> 717 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Aequorea victoria gfp gene (humanized) <220> <221> CDS <222> (1)..(717) <400> 9 atg age aag gge gag gaa etg tte act gge gtg gte eea att ete gtg 48 Met Ser Lys Gly Glu Glu Leu Phe Thr Gly Val Val Pro Ile Leu Val 5 1 10 15 gaa ctg gat ggc gat gtg aat ggg cac aaa ttt tct gtc agc gga gag 96 Glu Leu Asp Gly Asp Val Asn Gly His Lys Phe Ser Val Ser Gly Glu 30 ggt gaa ggt gat gcc aca tac gga aag ctc acc ctg aaa ttc atc tgc 144 Gly Glu Gly Asp Ala Thr Tyr Gly Lys Leu Thr Leu Lys Phe Ile Cys 40 35 45 acc act gga aag ctc cct gtg cca tgg cca aca ctg gtc act acc ttc 192 Thr Thr Gly Lys Leu Pro Val Pro Trp Pro Thr Leu Val Thr Thr Phe 50 55 60 tot tat ggc gtg cag tgc ttt tcc aga tac cca gac cat atg aag cag 240 Ser Tyr Gly Val Gln Cys Phe Ser Arg Tyr Pro Asp His Met Lys Gln 65 70 75 80 cat gac ttt ttc aag agc gcc atg ccc gag ggc tat gtg cag gag aga 288 His Asp Phe Phe Lys Ser Ala Met Pro Glu Gly Tyr Val Gln Glu Arg 85 90 95 acc atc ttt ttc aaa gat gac ggg aac tac aag acc cgc gct gaa gtc 336 Thr Ile Phe Phe Lys Asp Asp Gly Asn Tyr Lys Thr Arg Ala Glu Val

105

aag ttc gaa ggt gac acc ctg gtg aat aga atc gag ctg aag ggc att

Lys Phe Glu Gly Asp Thr Leu Val Asn Arg Ile Glu Leu Lys Gly Ile

100

110

| | | 115 | | | | | 120 | | | | | 125 | | | | |
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| _ | | _ | | | | | | | | | _ | ctg Leu | _ | | | 432 |
| | | | | | | | | _ | _ | _ | _ | caa Gln | _ | | ggc Gly 160 | 480 |
| | | _ | | | | | | | | | | gat Asp | | | gtg Val | 528 |
| _ | • | = | | | | | | | | | | ggc | _ | | | 576 |
| | | | | - | | | | _ | | | _ | tct Ser 205 | _ | _ | | 624 |
| | | | | | | | | _ | | | _ | ctg Leu | | | gtg Val | 672 |
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Lys Phe Glu Gly Asp Thr Leu Val Asn Arg Ile Glu Leu Lys Gly Ile 120 115 125 Asp Phe Lys Glu Asp Gly Asn Ile Leu Gly His Lys Leu Glu Tyr Asn 130 135 140 Tyr Asn Ser His Asn Val Tyr Ile Met Ala Asp Lys Gln Lys Asn Gly 145 150 155 160 Ile Lys Val Asn Phe Lys Ile Arg His Asn Ile Glu Asp Gly Ser Val 165 170 175 Gln Leu Ala Asp His Tyr Gln Gln Asn Thr Pro Ile Gly Asp Gly Pro 180 185 190 Val Leu Pro Asp Asn His Tyr Leu Ser Thr Gln Ser Ala Leu Ser 195 200 205 Lys Asp Pro Asn Glu Lys Arg Asp His Met Val Leu Leu Glu Phe Val 210 215 220 Thr Ala Ala Gly Ile Thr His Gly Met Asp Glu Leu Tyr Lys 225 230 235 <210> 11 <211> 717 . <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <220> <221> CDS <222> (1)..(717) <220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Synthetic gfp gene (Papillomavirusized) <220> <223> Codons of humanized gfp gene replaced with synonymous codons used at relatively high frequency by papillomavirus genes <400> 11 atg agt aaa ggg gaa gaa cta ttt aca ggg gtg gtg cct ata cta gtg 48 Met Ser Lys Gly Glu Glu Leu Phe Thr Gly Val Val Pro Ile Leu Val 1 10 15 gaa cta gat ggg gat gtg aat ggg cac aaa ttt tct gtc agt ggg gaa 96 Glu Leu Asp Gly Asp Val Asn Gly His Lys Phe Ser Val Ser Gly Glu 20 25 30 ggg gaa ggg gat gca aca tat ggg aaa cta aca cta aaa ttt ata tgc 144 Gly Glu Gly Asp Ala Thr Tyr Gly Lys Leu Thr Leu Lys Phe Ile Cys

40

35

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| agt tat ggg gtg Ser Tyr Gly Va: | - | | - | - | |
| cat gat ttt ttt His Asp Phe Phe | | | | _ _ | - |
| aca ata ttt ttt Thr Ile Phe Phe 10 | Lys Asp | | Tyr Lys Thi | | - |
| aaa ttt gaa ggg Lys Phe Glu Gly 115 | | | | | |
| gat ttt aaa gaa Asp Phe Lys Gli 130 | | | | Leu Glu | |
| tat aat agt cat Tyr Asn Ser His 145 | | | • | | |
| ata aaa gtg aas Ile Lys Val Ass | | - | | | |
| caa cta gca ga Gln Leu Ala As 18 | His Tyr | | Thr Pro Ile | | |
| gtg cta cta cc Val Leu Leu Pro 195 | - | | _ | | _ |
| aaa gat cct aas Lys Asp Pro Ass 210 | _ | - | | ı Leu Glu | - - |
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80

160

xxii

Glu Leu Asp Gly Asp Val Asn Gly His Lys Phe Ser Val Ser Gly Glu 20 25 30 Gly Glu Gly Asp Ala Thr Tyr Gly Lys Leu Thr Leu Lys Phe Ile Cys 35 40 Thr Thr Gly Lys Leu Pro Val Pro Trp Pro Thr Leu Val Thr Thr Phe . 50 55 60 Ser Tyr Gly Val Gln Cys Phe Ser Arg Tyr Pro Asp His Met Lys Gln 65 75 His Asp Phe Phe Lys Ser Ala Met Pro Glu Gly Tyr Val Gln Glu Arg 85 90 95 Thr Ile Phe Phe Lys Asp Asp Gly Asn Tyr Lys Thr Arg Ala Glu Val 100 105 110 Lys Phe Glu Gly Asp Thr Leu Val Asn Arg Ile Glu Leu Lys Gly Ile 115 120 125 Asp Phe Lys Glu Asp Gly Asn Ile Leu Gly His Lys Leu Glu Tyr Asn 130 135 140 Tyr Asn Ser His Asn Val Tyr Ile Met Ala Asp Lys Gln Lys Asn Gly 145 150 155 Ile Lys Val Asn Phe Lys Ile Ile Arg His Ile Glu Asp Gly Ser Val 165 170 175 Gln Leu Ala Asp His Tyr Gln Gln Asn Thr Pro Ile Gly Asp Gly Pro 180 185 190 Val Leu Leu Pro Asp Asn His Tyr Leu Ser Thr Gln Ser Ala Leu Ser 195 200 205 Lys Asp Pro Asn Glu Lys Arg Asp His Met Val Leu Leu Glu Phe Val 210 215 220 Thr Ala Ala Gly Ile Thr His Gly Met Asp Glu Leu Tyr Lys 225 230 235 <210> 13 <211> 17 <212> DNA <213> Artificial Sequence <220> <223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide specific for Ala(GCA)

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| <210> | 19 | |
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XXV

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| | | |
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| <210> 2 | | |
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| | • | |
| <210> 2 | ว <i>ๆ</i> | |
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VO 99/02694 xxvi

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<212> DNA

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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence:
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| INTERNATIO | MAL SEARCH REPORT | · | international Application | on No. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | PCT/AU 98/00530 | _ - |
| A. | CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER | | | <u>-</u> |
| Int Cl ⁶ : | C12N 15/37; C07K 14/025 | | | |
| According to | International Patent Classification (IPC) or to bot | h national classification and | IPC | |
| В. | FIELDS SEARCHED | | | |
| Minimum doci IPC: as abo | umentation searched (classification system followed by | classification symbols) | | |
| Documentation See Below | n searched other than minimum documentation to the ex | ctent that such documents are in | cluded in the fields searche | ed |
| STN (CA; N | he base consulted during the international search (name of Medline): codon usage/CT; gene expression /CTPAT): codon () use or codon () usage or codon() | Γ | ble, search terms used) | |
| C. | DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVAN | T | | |
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where ap | ppropriate, of the relevant pa | ssages Relevant to o | claim No. |
| P,X | AU-43556/97 (THE GENERAL HOSPITAL CO Claim 1-28 | ORPORATION) 26 March 1 | 998 1-25 | 5 |
| X,Y | AU-35099/95 (THE GENERAL HOSPITAL CO Claims 1-16 | ORPORATION) 28 March 1 | 996 1-25 | 5 |
| P,X | AU-17502/97 (UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA RI 24 July 1997 pp 2-12; pp 21-74 | ESEARCH FOUNDATION) | 1-25 | 5 |
| X | Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C | X See patent | family annex | · |
| "A" docur not co "E" earlie interr "L" docur or wh anoth "O" docur exhib | national filing date nent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) nich is cited to establish the publication date of ner citation or other special reason (as specified) ment referring to an oral disclosure, use, oition or other means | priority date and not in counderstand the principle of document of particular relationships be considered novel or carriventive step when the document of particular relationships combined with one or more | evance; the claimed invention invention inventive step when the content of the such documents, such to a person skilled in the | out cited to ention on cannot ve an cannot locument is och |
| Date of the act | tual completion of the international search | Date of mailing of the interna | tional search report - 2 SEP 1998 | |
| 19 August 199 Name and mai | ling address of the ISA/AU | Authorized officer | Z OLI 1000 | |
| | N PATENT OFFICE | MADHU K. JOGIA | Myso | |
| | (02) 6285 3929 | Telephone No.: (02) 6283 25 | 2 | |

• INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT (

iternational Application No.

PCT/AU 98/00530

| C (Continua | tion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X,Y | AU-74467/96 (DOWELANCO, USA) 17 April 1997 Claims 1-6 | 1-25 |
| X | J. VIROL, Vol. 70, pp 4646-4654 (1996) ZOLOTUKHIN et al A "humanized" green fluorescent protein CDNA adapted for high level expression in mammalian cells. | 1-25 |
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No. PCT/AU 98/00530

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

| atent Do | cument Cited in Search Report | | Patent Family Member | | | | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|----|----------------------|----|--------|----|---------|--|
| AU | 43556/97 | WO | 9812207 | | | | | |
| ΑÜ | 35099/95 | CA | 2200342 | EP | 781329 | US | 5786464 | |
| | | wo | 9609378 | | | | | |
| WÓ | 9726333 | AU | 17502/97 | _ | | | | |
| WO | 9713402 | AU | 74467/96 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | |

END OF ANNEX

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